

FBIS

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ANTHRAX PROPAGANDA USED TO POISON WORLD SITUATION

LD241740 Moscow TASS in English 1725 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

["A Germ of Lying"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 24, TASS--News analyst Leonid Kraskov writes: At Geneva, an international conference to examine the performance of the convention prohibiting bacteriological weapons has ended its deliberations. What is at issue is a major instrument prohibiting one of the most dangerous types of weapons of mass destruction--bacteriological and toxic weapons. A special importance of the convention lies in the fact that its conclusion removed from the arsenals of states a type of weapons already in existence and that it thus represented in effect a first--in modern history--measure of real and actual disarmament. In the years since its entry into force in 1975, the convention demonstrated that it is an effective international agreement whose provisions are being strictly fulfilled by all its parties whose total number at present runs into around ninety states. At the Geneva conference an overwhelming majority of the delegations noted the convention's major impact as a substantive measure of disarmament and the positive influence of the agreement on the process of limiting the arms race as a whole.

This, as can be seen, proved not to the liking of those who had definitely embarked on a path of spurring up the arms race, intensifying tensions in the relations between states. An so, practically on the very eve of the closing of the conference, a provocative campaign was raised around the convention, an attempt to cast aspersions on its efficacy. For want of something better, the sponsors of the provocation made use of a year-old event--a spontaneous outbreak of the animal disease called anthrax in the area of the city of Sverdlovsk, and attempted to pass it off as nothing short of a violation by the Soviet Union of provisions of the convention prohibiting bacteriological weapons.

The issue was raised by the American side to the effect that, allegedly, the disease could have been caused by a leak of pulmonary anthrax agents which allegedly were being produced in quantities larger than those called for by the need for protective, preventive and other peaceful measures than is allowed by the convention. This was to be followed by assertions that that had also resulted in many human casualties and deaths and that even a quarantine had to be introduced in the Sverdlovsk area. Needless to say, the Western mass media had joined in the noisy provocation without delay. A report followed another, each more terrifying than the previous, with newer and newer facts multiplying with a now-balling effect.

What was it that actually occurred in the area? In April 1979 a natural outbreak of anthrax took place in the Sverdlovsk area affecting animals and individual humans who were affected by a cutaneous and intestinal forms of the infection caused by cutting and consumption of animal meat sold in violation of the norms established by the veterinary control service. Already at that time, the necessary warnings were sounded in connection with the violations. Sverdlovsk newspapers, among others URALSKIY RABOCHIY, VECHERNYY SVERDLOVSK, as well as the press organs of industrial enterprises, reported in April 1979 that due to the adverse weather conditions of the autumn and winter of 1978-1979 in some of the areas of the Sverdlovsk region some of the livestock, including sheep and large cattle, had grown weak towards the end of the winter period, which made them susceptible to contagious diseases. That is why, despite the annual preventive vaccinations of cattle to make them immune to infectious diseases, cases are still possible of large cattle getting anthrax.

An appeal was launched for a stricter observance of the norms of individual hygiene while tending to the livestock, for guarding against buying at the market or from unauthorized individuals unbranded meat, wool and raw hides. No quarantine was ever introduced either in Sverdlovsk or on its outskirts.

It is well-known--and it was repeatedly reported in scientific publications--that the Sverdlovsk region had been for many centuries affected or threatened by epizootics--mass-scale anthrax incidence affecting livestock. The struggle against the disease was waged most intensively in the Soviet years which made it possible to sharply curtail the scale and the incidence of the disease. However, the disease has not been completely eradicated.

As one can see, all this, including the incident which occurred in the spring of 1979, have nothing to do with the convention prohibiting bacteriological weapons. Consequently there was no justification or foundation whatsoever for the U.S. side to raise the issue.

The Soviet side has, doubtless, resolutely rejected the attempts to call into question its bona fide implementation of the provisions of the convention prohibiting bacteriological weapons. As regards both this convention and other international agreements to which it is a party, the Soviet side strictly abides by all the provisions of the instruments it has signed.

In keeping with the Soviet legislation and practice, observance of the provisions of the convention prohibiting bacteriological and toxic weapons, ratified by the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet on February 11, 1975, is guaranteed by relevant state institutions of the USSR. A statement by a Soviet representative at the Committee on Disarmament on June 24, 1975, pointed out that the Soviet Union is not in the possession of any bacteriological (biological) agents or toxic substances, weapons, equipment or means of delivery stipulated in Article 1 of the convention.

One is, therefore, bound to ask: What is the purpose of this hue and cry? The main purpose, evidently, has been to use this clearly specious pretext in order to call into question the validity of the convention and to time this precisely with the holding at Geneva of the conference to examine its implementation.

Another purpose of the step was to try to introduce complications into the relations between states, above all, naturally, between the USSR and the USA. These unseemly attempts have clearly been dictated not by a concern for strengthening the existing international disarmament agreements and improvement of the international climate. On the contrary, in this particular case it was an attempt to undermine these agreements, to complicate the situation and to hamper the efforts of states to limit the arms race. Simultaneously, practical steps are being taken, as is known, aimed at spurring up the arms race. There is no need to say that such actions are incompatible with the interests of preservation and consolidation of peace, and the methods resorted to by the adversaries of limiting the arms race do them no credit.

The organizers of such campaigns appear to be acting on Washington's prescriptions for a "psychological warfare" against the Soviet Union, working to maintain international tensions by spreading patent fabrications. As is attested by this and many other cases, the U.S. administration is seen in the unseemly role of an irresponsible poisoner of the international situation.

CORRESPONDENT ASSAILS CHEMICAL WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT

LD242022 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] There are reports that Western countries are developing new types of chemical weapons. Valentin Napalin, an international affairs correspondent, comments:

Toxins are not only being developed in the West, but are being used now to break up demonstrations. The ruling classes are responding to the increased intensity of the struggle by the popular masses against encroachment on their rights by producing new and increasingly effective and dangerous types of toxins. Britain and the United States, for example, are developing gases and liquids which, when they get into the lungs, eyes and onto the skin, can immobilize people quickly and for a long time. The authorities assert, however, that these chemical means of fighting disorders are not dangerous and even useful since, they claim, they calm down the discontented demonstrators for a long time.

The widespread use of these means of dealing with protesters is one of the reasons for the reluctance of the Western powers to agree to an international agreement banning chemical weapons. As is known talks about this have been going on for a long time. However, the West is clearly in no hurry. Furthermore, new types of chemical weapons are being hurriedly created and tested. Among these particular notoriety has been gained recently by the so-called binary weapons. A feature of these weapons is that they are comparatively safe to manufacture, store and transport to their targets since substances of comparatively low toxicity are usually kept in two compartments separated by a partition in the bomb, shell or other container designed for military use. They combine on explosion or mix together directly when they reach the target. The product of this reaction is a toxin with a highly injurious capability.

The draft federal budget for FY1981 provides for the allocation of over \$20 million for the manufacture of nerve-paralyzing weapons. A considerable portion of this money will be used to develop binary systems of chemical ammunition and to prepare for mass production of these weapons. World public opinion is alarmed by the fact that the United States and other Western countries are intensively developing and testing chemical weapons systems, including binary ones, at the same time as talks on banning all types of chemical weapons are being held between the United States and the USSR. The United States apparently is in no hurry to sign a relevant agreement, or else it is trying, as it has done on more than one occasion, to gain an advantage at the negotiating table with us by creating new types of weapons. That is an extremely dangerous and shortsighted policy.

NOVOYE VREMYA: BENEFITS OF WARSAW DISARMAMENT MEETING

LD241529 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 11, 14 Mar 80 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Appeal From Warsaw"]

[Text] The Soviet Union and its allies persistently seek ways not only of overcoming dangerous phenomena in international life but also of developing initiatives from the last decade that work to improve relations among states and consolidate the foundations of peace. An example of this is Poland's initiative. Seeking to create favorable conditions for convening a conference on the issue of military detente and disarmament in Europe, this country expressed the readiness to hold it in Warsaw.

It will be recalled that back last spring the Warsaw Pact states suggested holding such a conference with the participation of all the European countries, and also the United States and Canada. How do they imagine this conference? In the socialist countries' opinion, during the first stage the conference could concentrate on measures to strengthen trust among states. This would create a good atmosphere for subsequently solving the problems of limiting the arms race.

The socialist community countries have long talked of the need to supplement political detente with military detente. In placing this question on the agenda several years ago, they were getting to the root of the processes that had clearly emerged in international life. Political detente and the simultaneous buildup of military power [sila] are incompatible. Those two processes move in opposite directions. And, as L.I. Brezhnev once noted, "they cannot endlessly develop along parallel courses, so to speak." It is particularly clear now just how correct that analysis was and how right the socialist countries were to insist on the need to get right down to military detente issues.

Indeed, at the cost of tremendous efforts mutual understanding on a pretty wide range of political problems was achieved in relations between the Warsaw Pact states and NATO, and the general tension decreased. It was on this basis that the possibility emerged for the Vienna talks on reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe, the Soviet-American dialog on strategic arms limitation and certain accords on disarmament problems in Geneva, in the Disarmament Committee. But headway has been extremely slow. No end is in sight to the talks on lowering the level of confrontation between the two mighty military groupings at the very heart of the European Continent. The SALT II treaty was signed as a result of many years of effort, but instead of being in a hurry to ratify it, the American administration has shelved it. Of course, the factor of the unpredictability of imperialist forces' actions also persists under different, more favorable conditions. Nevertheless, there would be more guarantees that the international community would not come up against the kind of deterioration in the situation it has now come up against if the business of strengthening security were not shelved and if military detente did not lag behind political detente. That is why there must be no delay in preparing for the conference proposed by the socialist countries. Agreement on convening it could be reached during the fall Madrid meeting of representatives of the countries that participated in the Helsinki conference. The very preparations for the conference will cool hotheads and offer an opportunity to tackle something useful to peace. The conference may help to strengthen trust among states, which has been undermined by Washington's actions. It would make it possible to advance the solution of disarmament problems, which is particularly important since the world has long since overstepped the mark beyond which the arms race becomes truly insane. That is the common opinion of the Soviet Union and its allies. The particular urgency of such a conference has been stressed at A.A. Gromyko's meetings with the socialist countries' foreign ministers. It was stated at the talks between E. Gierek and E. Honecker in Warsaw that the implementation of this proposal would mean a positive turnabout in the international situation.

A contribution to the preparations for and work of the conference can be made by all its participants, the United States included, for Washington's present line of inflaming the political atmosphere, although dangerous, essentially has no future.

The proposal on convening in Warsaw a conference on the issue of military detente and disarmament in Europe accords with the interests of all who are aware of their responsibility to the peoples. The socialist countries' voice should be heeded. At one time Europe was the herald of changes in international relations and nowadays its example is capable of positively influencing the world course of events in the world.

LONG-TERM ECONOMIC PROGRAMS SIGNED WITH HUNGARY, CSSR

LD211439 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 80 p 5 LD

[Pavel Bogomolov "Commentator's Column": "For the Long Term"]

[Text] Long-term programs for the development of production specialization and co-operation between the USSR and Hungary and between the USSR and the CSSR for the period through 1990 were signed recently in Budapest and Prague. Thus two more documents opening up prospects for economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and fraternal states for a whole decade ahead have come into effect. Last year, as is known, similar programs were adopted by the USSR and Bulgaria and by the USSR and the GDR.

Work compiling such large-scale cooperation plans was started by the principled accords reached at L.I. Brezhnev's meetings with the leaders of a number of fraternal parties and states. The documents adopted as a result create real preconditions for proceeding to a qualitatively new stage of cooperation and are of not only economic but also of great political significance.

The chief purpose of the long-term programs is to make the maximum contribution to resolving the strategic tasks of socialist and communist building in the community states. This means insuring the national economy's dynamic and efficient development, making rational use of resources and enhancing the working people's well-being. The substance of the bilateral documents is closely linked with the realization of the five long-term targeted cooperation programs approved at the 32d and 33d CEMA sessions.

It is characteristic that the jointly outlined directions of cooperation will be reflected in the community states' next 5-year socioeconomic development plans. At the same time rapprochement and the mutually complementary nature of their national economic complexes will make it possible to insure the steady strengthening of the might of the world socialist system as a whole.

The long-term programs define not only the general directions but also specific tasks essential to the balanced and dynamic growth of material production. They have been drawn up on sound foundations proven in practice. Starting with traditional forms of economic ties, the fraternal countries' cooperation gradually assumed the nature of a full-scale process of socialist economic integration. The role of reciprocal coordination of plans is particularly great. The main directions, for example, of the development of cooperation between the USSR and Mongolia in 1981-1985, including the tasks of completing construction of the Soviet-Mongolian Erdenet copper and molybdenum mining and enriching combine, were recently examined on the basis of the results of this coordination.

Following the course of socialist economic integration, the fraternal states look confidently to the future.

WALDHEIM'S SPOKESMAN CITED ON SHAH'S MOVE TO EGYPT

LD242039 Moscow TASS in English 2021 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] New York, March 24, TASS --A spokesman for the U.N. secretary general stated that, as Kurt Waldheim considers, the departure of the former shah of Iran from Panama was a new and unexpected turn in the development of events, a turn which, judging by Iran's initial reaction, will become a complicating factor in efforts to settle the crisis. Nevertheless, he said, the U.N. secretary general remains intent upon continuing the efforts towards its peaceful solution.

REPORTAGE ON DELHI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PEACE IN ASIA

Opening Session

LD231938 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 23 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpts] Delhi, March 23, TASS --An International Conference for Peace and Security in Asia opened here today. This major forum of the peace-loving public is attended by delegates from more than 65 countries of five continents and representatives of ten international organizations. The delegates are to discuss the questions of intensifying the struggle of the peoples against the attempts of American imperialism and its Chinese allies to undermine detente, to aggravate the international situation in Asia and in the area of the Indian Ocean and to throw mankind back to the cold war times.

In his statement the leader of the Soviet delegation, A. Ananyev, vice chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee, stressed the determination of the Soviet people to pursue undeviatingly, together with other freedom-loving peoples, a policy of detente, peaceful coexistence and disarmament and of giving assistance to developing countries in their struggle for independence. General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Leonid Brezhnev stressed more than once that the policy of detente should become the result of joint efforts by all peace-loving countries.

Today the participants in the International Conference for Peace and Security in Asia were received by P.V. Narasimha Rao, Indian minister of external affairs.

Afghan Delegate Remarks

LD241458 Moscow TASS in English 1344 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Delhi, March 24, TASS --"The participation in this conference is of particular importance for the Afghan delegation since our country is the subject of a plot of interference and also serves as a pretext to augment international tension". This was stated in an interview with a TASS correspondent by Nezamuddin Tahzib, member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, head of the Afghan delegation at the World Conference for Peace and Security in Asia, which is taking place here.

"Following the events of Afghanistan U.S. imperialism has resorted to hysterical campaigns of lies and slander, to such an extent that it would appear they want to fill the (?whole) atmosphere and climate of the world with lies, distortions and empty words. One of the main trends of this propaganda is to set the Islamic countries and the Muslims of the world against Afghanistan".

"The culmination of American provocations is the so-called Islamic conference at Islamabad he [as received] has hastily tried to convene under the following heading: 'The Events in Afghanistan Constitute a Tragedy for Islam.'"

Is the opening of a path of social progress for the oppressed masses of Muslims a catastrophe for Islam? If the answer to this question is negative, then we must declare: Why were these voices not raised on the occasion of As-Sadat's trip to Israel in 1977, to rally the leaders of Islamic countries [word indistinct] over a real cause of drama in the Islamic world? Why was an Islamic summit meeting not convened at the time of the Camp David agreement to oppose this event so disastrous to the Arab and Muslim peoples, an agreement which in fact put a holy city of Islam into the hands of Zionism? Why did the naval line-up around the Islamic Republic of Iran and the practice of economic sanctions against that country by the Americans fail to produce the convening of an Islamic conference?"

"The military aid to the regime of Pakistan and to anti-Islamic groups for purposes of mass killings, the burning down of Muslim villages, the destruction of bridges, the murder of women and children, the demolition of schools and factories and the interference into the internal affairs of an independent and Muslim state does not constitute a tragedy for the world of Islam?"

We condemn all attempts to begin discussions about the so-called 'Afghan problem' in absence of the Afghan people and its representatives, of its legal government. We regard this as an outright interference with our internal affairs. We insist and reiterate that there is no other durable and decisive solution of the problems in our region but an immediate, total and absolute stop to any interference, in particular to the imperialist military interference in our country."

"We are fully aware of the danger that Pakistan might be transformed into a gunpowder barrel. Everyday sophisticated and modern arms are being accumulated in Pakistan sent by the strategic road of Kharakhorum, by air and through the Karachi port. The war material contains the Phantom F-15, and F1B fighterbombers and the tanks Chieftain and others. All these deliveries and military actions within a long-term plan are quite certainly in close connection with the massive and ever more apparent military presence of the Americans in the Indian Ocean.

Unfortunately, the political leaders in Islamabad have changed Pakistan into a link of the chain connected with the strategy of imperialism forming a line between the Indian Ocean, the gulf, the military bases in Turkey and in the Mediterranean. Pakistan has become an important point in the strategy of China and the USA.

Gradually Pakistan set on such a path that leads to a loss of independence, action and free thinking. Pakistan might turn into an alarming source of tension threatening the security and stability in South Asia."

"While destroying and stifling all revolutionary movements of the peoples of Asia, imperialism would go on building military and intelligence bases on land and in the sea which would open the way to intervention and to aggression in any corner of the continent.

We who have the honour to represent the oppressed masses will never allow the American imperialism, the Chinese hegemonists, the Arab reaction and the regional reaction to use Afghanistan as a pretext for arming Pakistan. I think that it is one of the major duties and tasks of this conference to warn the honorable people of Pakistan and to make it aware of the mortal danger prepared for the people and the country by its leaders.

I feel that it is one of the most important tasks of this historic meeting to make the governments of peoples of Asia and in particular of South Asia aware of the real danger as represented by the armament of Pakistan for peace and security in Asia."

Soviet Delegate Remarks

LD241510 Moscow TASS in English 1145 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpts] Delhi, March 24, TASS--TASS correspondent Boris Chekhonin and Igor Kolganov report: Before the start of the second day of work today at the current International Conference for Peace and Security in Asia, its delegates were received by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India. The most urgent objective today, she said, is that people of diverse convictions should find a common language, a common platform in the struggle for strengthening peace and easing international tensions. As far as India is concerned, it has always pursued and will pursue a policy of peace and mutual understanding among nations.

We have come together at a time, said head of the Soviet delegation, Vice-Chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee, Secretary of the Board of the USSR Writers' Union Anatoliy Ananyev addressing a plenary meeting of the conference, when clouds have again gathered over the world.

While trampling underfoot the rights of peoples, their sovereignty and independence, the USA is openly proclaiming the intention to establish its military-political and economic domination in the Persian Gulf area and in the Indian Ocean basin as a whole.

It is absolutely obvious that all of these actions are part of the world-wide conspiracy of American imperialism against peace and detente. They cannot be viewed separately from Washington's latest decisions on an unprecedented arms build-up, on the deployment of new nuclear missiles in Europe, and on freezing the ratification of the SALT II treaty.

To camouflage the course it has already long taken towards undermining detente and escalation of arms race, Washington is having recourse to a dishonest attempt at trying to present Soviet aid to Democratic Afghanistan, which is repelling outside aggression, as the prime cause of the present complications in international affairs. The support given by the Soviet Union to Afghanistan is law-governed, it does not prejudice the interests of the neighbour countries and does not constitute a threat to security and stability in Asia.

We are proposing from the rostrum of this conference, the head of the Soviet delegation said, to address all peace forces with the call for starting a powerful campaign of protest against the growing American threat to peace in Asia, for the immediate withdrawal of America naval ships from the Indian Ocean, for dismantling military bases and putting an end to the policy of blackmail and pressure vis-a-vis the sovereign states in that area, for ending attempts at crude interference in the internal affairs of the peoples of Iran and Afghanistan.

U.S. 'IGNORED SIGNALS' ON CONSEQUENCES OF SHAH'S FLIGHT

Dmitriyev Comment

LD241412 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] A day before Iran planned to start formal extradition proceedings against the deposed shah, he left Panama and arrived in Egypt. And we bring you a comment by our observer Igor Dmitriyev. This is what he writes:

There has been a good deal of speculation whether key American officials were behind the shah's departure. Washington has denied any such involvement, insisting that the shah's decision to leave Panama was his and his alone. In previous days, however, there had been a series of secret meetings, negotiations, medical consultations, in which the White House chief of staff, Hamilton Jordan, took part. And it is improbable that the shah's departure was not discussed. It is also improbable that Hamilton Jordan attended the secret meetings without any instructions from the administration, which was quite aware of warnings from Tehran that any move to get the shah out of Panama would have unfortunate consequences for the American diplomats in Iran.

It is an open secret that the hostage crisis was a result of admission of the deposed shah to the United States. The decision to admit the shah was taken despite numerous signals from the U.S. Embassy in Tehran that such a move was fraught with dangerous consequences not only for the embassy staff, but would have an adverse effect on the political situation in the region.

But the administration appears to have yielded to pressure from the former secretary of state, Henry Kissinger, and the Rockefeller family, who have close financial links with the multibillion Pahlavi Foundation. The crisis that followed gave President Carter a rare chance to show himself in action after he had been sharply criticized in the United States for being a weak president. His reelection chances last year were believed to be next to nil. The hostage crisis has enabled the administration to hold the nation in the grip of tensions, to blame Iran and to undertake steps to reinforce the American military presence in the Persian Gulf. Everybody was to blame but not the administration. It was a convenient posture which allowed Washington to show firmness and military muscle without doing much for the U.S. hostages.

Unbelievable as it may sound, the Carter administration seems to have ignored signals that the departure of the shah from Panama might prolong the crisis. And it is quite clear why the Carter administration so vehemently rejects the idea that it was behind the shah's departure. They figure out that since nobody can prove 100 percent that the administration had been involved, Washington can continue with its policy of blaming others and whipping up tensions in the area.

Washington Responsibility

LD241658 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1500 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The former shah of Iran has been transported from Panama to Egypt. The shah left his place in Panama in a hurry on the eve of the arrival of the delegation of Iranian lawyers. The lawyers brought documents proving the crimes of the former shah against the Iranian nation. The documents were to be used to extradite the shah in order to put him on trial.

Washington has done everything lately to prevent the shah's surrender into the hands of Iranian organs of justice. To achieve this Hamilton Jordan, the close adviser of U.S. President Carter, was hurriedly sent to Panama. To judge by everything the Panamanian island of Contadora, where the shah was brought from the United States last fall, was considered by Washington to be not a very safe refuge.

The emissary of Carter's administration arranged to transport the shah out of Panama by an American military aircraft. Washington is saving the former Iranian monarch for many reasons. First of all, a trial of the shah would, at the same time, be a trial of the United States. The shah's regime was maintained with American weapons, and the emperor's police SAVAK was a branch of the CIA. The police shot and tortured over 100,000 Iranian patriots who took part in peaceful demonstrations. Using the shah, the United States plundered the natural resources of Iran, above all the oil. The shah's regime was an obedient policeman in the Near and Middle East. The trial of the shah would shed some extra light on the dirty deeds and plans of Washington in these regions. The United States could not, of course, allow this.

Now a refuge has been found for the former shah under the wing of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. It is worth recalling here that Cairo was the first place of refuge for the fallen Iranian monarch when in January of last year he escaped the anger of the Iranian nation. A Lebanese paper AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI wrote then that a plan of intervention to quash the Iranian revolution was under discussion at that time in Egypt. The paper wrote that the Americans offered their transport aircraft which would convey Egyptian soldiers to Tehran.

At present a large armada of U.S. warships is located off the coast of Iran. The appearance of the former shah in Egypt, close to Iran, causes anxiety in Muslim countries which are worried in case the United States might undertake actions to restore in one form or another the shah's regime in Iran. The transportation of the former shah out of Panama, organized by Washington, has caused a new wave of anti-American feeling in Iran.

DEMCHENKO DISCUSSES U.S. DESIGNS IN MIDDLE EAST

First Talk

LD232035 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 23 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, this is a talk by Pavel Demchenko on the concentration of U.S. naval forces in the Arabian Gulf. The concentration of U.S. naval forces in the Arabian Gulf region is a source of concern and anxiety to world public opinion. This is the subject of the talks to be given today to Moscow Radio by well-known Soviet journalist and PRAVDA commentator Pavel Demchenko:

You may not find another region in the world which is mentioned daily by the world press like that of the Arabian Gulf. Why? It is not just because this region is an oil-rich region. Another reason for the fact that it has been mentioned more frequently recently is the continuation of the huge concentration of U.S. Armed Forces there. In our age--the age of the total collapse of colonialism--the plans of U.S. imperialism, which has placed this region within the sphere of the vital interests of the United States that is trying to impose its military domination over the region, seem odd.

In order to justify such intentions the Iranian-American dispute and in particular the question of the hostages at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran have been exploited since the end of last year. Subsequently the United States used the Afghan card and the entry into Afghanistan of a limited Soviet force at the request of the Afghan Government. But if we are to place everything in chronological order it becomes quite clear that all this is nothing but an excuse and a propaganda camouflage for the real U.S. intention and for its regarding this region of a vital importance to itself, and for subsequently placing the region under its control by military force.

It is for this reason that the United States is not only concentrating its warships in the Arabian Peninsula region and southern Iran, but it also wants to set up its military bases there. It is its intention to establish in the region its direct military control. It goes without saying that this U.S. concept bears no relationship whatsoever with the interests of the independent development of the Arabian Gulf region nor with international detente, which has gained strength recently because of the efforts of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and also the progressive forces in Asia, African and Latin American countries.

But at a certain stage the constantly increasing independence of the oil countries and the progress made by the process of international detente conflicted with the interests of the influential monopolies in the United States. This is reflected in regions such as the Indian Ocean and the Middle East. It suffices to say that the decision to form the so-called rapid deployment forces there was announced by the Pentagon long before the hostages issue or the so-called Afghan crisis. Had these two incidents not taken place, the U.S. reactionary forces would have found another excuse to electrify the atmosphere. The important thing is that the United States did have the intention of establishing a network of military bases in the Middle East areas in order to impose control over the entire gulf oil resources and, if need be, to occupy the oilwells.

Furthermore, the occupation of some Arab countries with the goal of establishing U.S. domination there falls within the task program of the rapid deployment force: in other words, to turn these countries into U.S. colonies and to return to the era of colonialism which has been completely eradicated.

It is for this reason that a special naval unit has been formed, comprising a battalion of marines with tanks, guns and helicopters; it also comprises the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk and a number of other warships. Part of this unit is in the Bahrain region; the other is stationed not far from the Pakistani port of Karachi. The concentration of U.S. forces in this region has reached a dangerous level. The Pentagon does not conceal the fact that the U.S. warships will henceforth always remain in the Arabian Gulf region.

All this military activity is supported by various political actions. Everything points to the fact that Washington wants to drive a wedge in the nonaligned movement and to establish a bloc comprising some developing countries and in particular the Muslim countries. It is for this reason, according to the Western press, that special adviser to the U.S. President Brzezinski and a number of senior U.S. diplomats went to the Middle East and South Asia recently. LE FIGARO said that the aim was to set up a kind of a military bloc comprising Muslim countries, but recent reports lead one to conclude that attempts to set up this bloc were not successful; nor did Washington succeed in winning supporters for its plan.

Second Talk

LD242310 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] We now present the second talk by the well-known Soviet journalist, Pavel Demchenko, on the dangerous concentration of U.S. Armed Forces in the Arabian Gulf region.

In his previous talk Pavel Demchenko recalled that U.S. imperialism considers the Arabian Gulf region to be an area of U.S. vital interests. This means that the United States intends to impose its political and military domination over this region.

Pavel Demchenko also recalled that the United States has set up for this particular purpose a special naval force and has dispatched it close to the Arabian Gulf region. The efforts of U.S. diplomacy also aim at splitting the united front of the nonaligned states and at establishing a military bloc comprised of certain Islamic states. But Washington's attempts have failed because U.S. envoys have been unable to find supporters for their plan in the Middle East.

Here is the second talk by Pavel Demchenko: It was reiterated once again in the capitals visited by the U.S. envoys that there are independent states in the Arabian Gulf region and in the Indian Ocean basin which are members of the United Nations and which do not want to see U.S. forces or other naval military forces in these areas. All the states of the region except Oman have refused to offer their territories to the United States for the construction of military bases. Many states have categorically opposed this Pentagon plan. Iraq expressed its strong protest against the concentration of U.S. naval forces near its shores. The Iranian Government also voiced a similar protest. In this connection the statement made by the Kuwaiti foreign minister is of special significance. He said: There is no need for anyone to protect us, we are capable of protecting ourselves. Moreover, no one is threatening us. India and a number of other South Asian countries have adopted a very specific stand of condemning the U.S. actions in the Indian Ocean.

Only Pakistan has given a positive response to the plan. It is now conducting talks with Washington. It appears that because of the decisive stand of most of the states, Somalia's president, Siad Barre has changed his position on the U.S. plan. It was stated in Washington at the beginning of this campaign that Somalia was prepared to offer its territories to Washington for the construction of military bases. However, the Somali president himself later stated: Our country has not given permission to anyone to build military bases or to turn any Somali port into a base for a foreign military fleet.

Under similar conditions, an incident has occurred that has caused great concern in diplomatic circles and anger in Arab capitals. The U.S. delegate to the UN Security Council recently supported a resolution condemning Israel's policy in the occupied territories. Two days later President Carter stated that this vote was a mistake and withdrew the U.S. delegate's vote and adopted the customary stand of supporting Israel's extremist anti-Arab course. What is the reason for this? It appears from everything that the Americans still rely on Israel as their main base in the Middle East. The important thing is that the role of this base has greatly increased following the appearance of U.S. warships in the Arabian Peninsula region. The need has arisen to establish a permanent airbridge between the United States and these warships. These aircraft land at bases located in Israel. Under such circumstances the Americans have refused to quarrel with the Israelis and have decided to sacrifice Arab interests. By doing so they confirmed once again that Israel is the main ally of the United States. They also betrayed once again the interests of the Arab peoples, particularly the interests of the Palestinian Arab people.

It is common knowledge that the attempts by the imperialist states to impose their domination over the Middle East region and the Arabian Gulf have resulted in failure. Despite the fact that the Americans have agents in a number of countries, including the Arab countries, and despite the fact that the Egyptian regime revolves in their orbit, there is no doubt that the plans of imperialism will fail once again because all the Arab peoples oppose the opening of their countries to imperialism.

They do not want to revolve in the orbit of the U.S. imperialist policy which is closely linked with the interests of Zionism and major monopolies which exploit the natural resources of the peoples of Asia and Africa. These people have eliminated colonialism and are rejecting all forms of subservience and imperialist domination.

ULTERIOR MOTIVES BEHIND 'USSR TOXINS IN AFGHANISTAN' CLAIM

LD241511 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 March 1980 carries on page 9, under the headline "That's How They Killed People--That's How They Intend To Kill," a feature on the United States and chemical weapons. The feature begins with the following unattributed introduction:

"As though by command, propaganda in the West has started developing a new theme. Thus, for instance, citing an anonymous American witness, the EBC and VOA are claiming that the Soviet troops in Afghanistan are using toxins. This claim has also been taken up by other bourgeois news organs. To say that this is merely an unscrupulous lie which is an attempt to add a little firewood to the smoldering fire of anti-Sovietism is certainly not the whole story.

"The following facts need to be noted. After the Western radio voices' 'revelations' it was learned that the Pentagon had demanded new appropriations to prepare for chemical and biological warfare. The New York TIMES disclosed this. Moreover, chemical concerns have already brought modern equipment to produce paralyzing nerve gases, without waiting for a decision by Congress to appropriate the sums demanded.

"There is yet another factor. People in the United States have again begun to recall the American crimes in Vietnam. What has prompted this has been the revelations of former American soldiers who are still suffering as a result of having once entered zones poisoned by defoliants in Vietnamese jungles.

"That is why the Washington strategists, supplying the airways and the press with a malevolent lie about the Soviet Army, are trying by this unsavory method to divert public attention from both their own past and their present criminal activity."

The feature continues with a 400-word A. Borisova article outlining the claims that the defoliant Agent Orange is responsible for disabilities and deaths among U.S. Vietnam veterans and describing the way the defoliant was used in Vietnam.

LITERATURNAYA GAZETA accompanies the feature with a large--approximately 6 inches by 6 inches--reproduction of a photo from an Italian magazine showing a soldier in a grotesque protective mask enveloped in a cloud of foam, gas or smoke. LITERATURNAYA GAZETA's caption reads: "Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The troop formations composing the so-called quick-reaction corps are stationed there. In addition to the other trials to which the American landing forces are being subjected, the reaction of the latest toxins is still being tried out on them. Yesterday it was Vietnam; what will it be tomorrow?..."

PUSTOV: MILITARY BUDGET REFLECTS 'HEGEMONIST COURSE'

LD241627 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[KRSNAYA ZVEZDA international observer V. Pustov "Military-Political Review:
"The Hegemonist Course and Its Budget"]

[Text] A country's budget is metaphorically called a mirror of its policy. It can also be compared to x-rays, since it illuminates, so to speak, the policy's true aims and essence through the superimposed layer of propaganda cosmetics. The U.S. budget, for instance, clearly displays the hegemonism of Washington's present foreign policy course. That same course which J. Sommerville, honorary professor of philosophy at New York University, has called a "senseless violation of our people's inalienable right to life."

Defense Secretary H. Brown, expounding the U.S. draft military budget for fiscal 1981 and a 5-year program of militarist preparations in Congress committees, threw in 12-figure numbers with unusual facility. Next year total appropriations for military purposes will exceed \$161 billion, which is \$20 billion more than the current year's record level. The increase in military expenditure, as President J. Carter warned, is not a temporary "boom" but a long-term policy.

So Carter's election promise of 4 years ago to reduce military expenditure by \$5-7 billion a year turned out to be pure demagoguery. His election tactics have now changed sharply. As people are saying in the United States, the "new Carter" credits himself with different "achievements": "I have accelerated the development of cruise missiles"; "I am stepping up our military presence in the Persian Gulf region"; "I intend to continue the struggle to strengthen our country's might...." And the long list of militarist acts culminates in an appeal to the voters to "make new sacrifices."

Yes, considerable sacrifices are demanded from the American people. The development and production of new strategic weapons systems and the modernization and buildup of tactical nuclear forces and general-purpose forces lead to vast expenditure. Some \$40.5 billion is allocated for the purchase of arms and combat hardware--approximately \$5 billion more than in fiscal 1980.

A particular feature of the Pentagon budget for the next fiscal year is the fact that it is an integral part of a costly 5-year military program reflecting the hegemonist U.S. "doctrine" of armed interference in practically all regions of the world. According to preliminary calculations in 1985--the final year of that program--the Pentagon military budget will increase to nearly \$250 billion.

This last expenditure is dictated by the U.S. imperialist circles' claims to world domination. Official messages, speeches and reports and statements by the mass media are devoted to attempts to "substantiate" America's right to global interference, which is now focused on southwest Asia and in particular the oil-rich Persian Gulf. Their "arguments," speaking frankly, are very meager. They do not go beyond the provocative ballyhoo about the imaginary "threat to U.S. vital interests" and even to U.S. "security" allegedly emanating from the USSR or from local patriotic forces and the flagrant distortion of the nature of events in Iran and Afghanistan.

It is indicative, however, that while hypocritically intimidating all and sundry with anti-Soviet fables Washington is at the same time adopting extensive steps to build up interventionist forces in and on the approaches to the Persian Gulf. [paragraph continues]

For many a month now more than 20 American warships, including assault aircraft carriers, have been there, threatening recalcitrant Iran. Landing ships with 1,800 marines on board are hurrying to their assistance. F-15 tactical aircraft are concentrated in Saudi Arabia. B-52 strategic bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons periodically appear over the Gulf of Oman. In addition to these forces, the 110,000-strong "quick reaction corps" is being hurriedly knocked together in the United States.

To deliver members of punitive expeditions to the Persian Gulf region Pentagon strategists are marking air and sea routes on operations maps: via the Atlantic and the Mediterranean or via the Pacific and Indian oceans. This is how the plan for the shipment of the "quick reaction corps" from the United States and its invasion of Iran looks--a plan which BUSINESS WEEK described as the "American scenario for a Near East war." The 82d Air Borne Division invades first, then the 101st Airborne Assault Division, and after the seizure of a bridgehead on Iranian territory the 3d Marine Division and tank and motorized units of other formations are to arrive. The schedule worked out by the "scriptwriters" for the shipment of the interventionists looks like this: In the first 3 days--16,000 parachutists, in 2 weeks--25,000 soldiers, and in 4-6 weeks--more than 100,000.

In order to reduce the times to a minimum it is planned to construct about 100 long-range CX big transport planes and 15 big transport ships in 5 years. These ships, with tanks, artillery, ammunition and fuel for three marine brigades on board, are to be in "forward positions" beforehand, not far from the Persian Gulf or any other "hot spot" in the world. Some \$700 million has been demanded for the construction of new military transport facilities for fiscal 1981, and \$1.3 billion for the year after.

One wonders why and for what purpose they are "trumpeting forth" interventionist plans whose place, one would think, is in heavily sealed safes. It is not hard to guess. Washington is publicly brandishing the heavy gendarme's stick raised over southwest Asia in order to intimidate countries in the region and make them obey its diktat. As we see, a very real threat to freedom and the peoples' independence is being created behind the smokescreen of anti-Soviet slander.

Expatiations on how the buildup in the American military presence there has been undertaken allegedly "in response" to events in Iran and Afghanistan are also completely false. These events are not the cause but the pretext. As is known, Pentagon strategists have long been entertaining the idea of armed occupation of oil sources in the Persian Gulf countries. In 1977, that is, before the revolution in Iran and events in Afghanistan, Carter approved the plan for creating the "quick reaction forces," which as the American press reported, is to cost \$9 billion.

However, the implementation of this costly venture had to be postponed for a time, since Washington was then embarking on the implementation of programs which were, in its opinion, more urgent. In first place were military preparations within the aggressive NATO bloc aimed at achieving Western superiority. In particular preparations for foisting American medium-range nuclear missiles on a number of West European countries were stepped up.

The past years have also been used to further whip up anti-Soviet hysteria--the propaganda preparations for Washington's sharp turn from detente to "cold war" and to attempts to change the correlation of forces not only in "NATO's sphere of operations," but also outside NATO.

Another fact is of considerable significance. A few years ago, as the New York TIMES stresses, "many Americans came to understand the folly of U.S. interference in Vietnam or at least realized it was doomed to failure." It also took time to deaden the bitter lessons of history in Americans' memories and to instill illusory hopes in them for the "success" of the new militarist folly--this time in the Persian Gulf zone. Washington decided, by all appearances, that the late seventies and early eighties was the very time for a show of strength, for saber rattling with the threat of "teaching a lesson," "chastising" and "punishing...."

It must not be forgotten that southwest Asia is not the only region threatened by large-scale U.S. provocative acts. In accordance with the new "doctrine" the United States is trying to assume the right to declare East, South and Southeast Asia, the western Pacific, Central America, the Caribbean and so forth to be "crisis zones." That is why the task has been set of creating, in addition to the interventionist forces, a "fleet of global significance" and deploying it at sea. The 5-year military program provides for the construction of another 97 ships--mostly combat ships. The Department of Navy leadership, having decided that anything goes in piracy, has proposed that old battleships mothballed back in the fifties as "remnants of a naval era which is now in the past" be brought back into service. It has been calculated that bringing them out of storage and rearming them will cost nearly \$3 billion.

Those are a few details of the unseemly picture reflected in the mirror of the new American military budget. But it should be noted: However many billions are cast onto the altar of aggression and war, history cannot be reversed. The armored "remnants" have been followed into the past--and irretrievably--by the gloomy era of undivided imperialist domination. Attempts to revive it one way or another have suffered failure in the last 10 years. There is no doubt that in the eighties too freedom-loving peoples will not permit the gendarme across the ocean to interfere in their internal affairs and will defend the right to dispose of their own natural resources and determine their own future.

'PEACE TREATY' CEREMONY LINKED TO NEW YORK PRIMARY

LD241328 Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Washington, March 24, TASS--A pompous ceremony on the occasion of the first anniversary of signing the separate "peace treaty" between Egypt and Israel was held in the White House on Sunday. It is noteworthy that the ceremony was held three days before the real day of the anniversary and two days before the primary elections in New York State scheduled to be held tomorrow. This is, of course, not accidental. Such a turning is undoubtedly explained by Jimmy Carter's election considerations, as Zionists hold particularly strong positions in heavily Jewish New York State, which after California sends the largest number of delegates to the Democratic Party convention traditionally voting for representatives of the Democratic Party. It is precisely with an eye to the votes of these electors that President Carter again declared full support for Tel Aviv's military and political expansionism while addressing the ceremony in the White House. He repeated his refusal to recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization and hold talks with it, declared against the founding of an independent Palestinian state and for an "indivisible Jerusalem", i.e. actually expressed support for the Israeli occupation for the eastern, Arab part of the city. The Sunday ceremony in the White House has shown once again how President Carter's foreign policy line is subordinated to the aims of his election campaign in the country. By continuing the policy of "special relationship" of the USA with the Israeli aggressor he hopes to win additional votes of the electorate.

GAN REPORTS COUNTERSPY EDITOR'S REMARKS ON CIA, AFGHANISTAN

LD241217 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 18 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[TASS correspondent V. Gan article for SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA: "A Washington Thriller: Frank Talking on Connecticut Avenue About the CIA's Subversive Actions Against Afghanistan"]

[Text] Washington--It all started almost like in a thriller. I had to be in the "(Tell)" Cafeteria on Connecticut Avenue in the Dupont Circle area at 1415 hours. As we had agreed, the man I was to meet, whom I did not know, was to carry a copy of one of the capital's newspapers, since his beard would not be much of a distinguishing feature in Washington.

The weather turned out to be of an appropriate "thriller" standard--somewhere around an hour before the rendezvous everything went dark and thick, wet snow began to fall. Leaving the car in a side street, I started looking for the cafeteria, which, as ill luck would have it, seemed to have disappeared off the face of the earth. A good half-hour went past before my eyes fell at last on the right sign, which I had passed without noticing several times going up and down Connecticut Avenue. I was probably put off the track by the fact that the cafeteria turned out to be only a small cafe with five little tables and a bar.

I squeezed in. I looked around and saw neither the "beard" nor the newspaper upon which we had agreed. Only as I turned to go out did I notice that on one side of the door, by the window, was a guy with a black beard, with a briefcase under his arm, and on the other side were two guys and a girl wearing blue nylon jackets.

I will never forget what happened next. I hardly had time to go up to the "bearded one" just in case, to see if he was waiting for me, when the company opposite started to move. One of the guys, making faces, started begging from us, dragging some kind of wire behind him. At the same time his "partner" placed a movie camera on his shoulder and started shooting, literally pushing it right into our faces.

"I never thought they would be so brazen. We know they tap our phone and sometimes follow us, but there has been nothing like that before. Perhaps it's because it is the first time I have met with a Soviet journalist?" Conrad Ege said indignantly once we were installed in a cafe under the witty sign of "Afterwords" inside the Kramer bookstore.

I too was surprised, not remembering anything like it in all my years in Washington. It has long been known that there are bugging devices in our residential and working premises and on Soviet employees' telephones and in their cars, and that we are constantly followed. But taking movies openly, in broad daylight, in the middle of the American capital--this was something new.

There can be no doubt that my person could not in itself arouse such obvious and unhealthy interest. It would be hard to find anything criminal or illegal, or anything untypical of a reporter's work in the intention of meeting with someone in order to conduct an interview. It was rather that the "movie makers" wanted to intimidate Ege....

But let us stop mystifying the readers and clarify our "thriller."

...There are two magazines in Washington--COUNTERSPY and COVERT ACTION--which are anathema to the CIA. The employees of these publications carry out complex and painstaking work to expose in documentary form American counterintelligence's dirty tricks and publish the names of those "spooks," as the "cloak and dagger knights" are called here, who operate within American embassies. "Our aim is to put an end to their criminal activity, which is carried out under the false slogan of insuring national security. In our opinion the United States should renounce its unscrupulous operations and stop interfering in other countries' affairs," stated William (Shaap), publisher of COVERT ACTION, explaining the tasks which the two magazines set themselves.

It is asserted that by means of concealed photographic equipment the CIA "takes" issues of COUNTERSPY and COVERT ACTION straight from the printing presses. It is hard to check. But it is a fact that it is waging a "miniwar" against them. From various high Washington platforms these magazines are anathematized, they are accused of "treason," a legislative ban on their activity is demanded, and so forth.

Knowing all this, there was no need to specify who "they" were who had roused the indignation of my companion, one of the editors of COUNTERSPY. Installed in "Afterwords" and warming our frozen fingers on the coffee cups, we quite quickly "cut ourselves off" from the unpleasant confrontation on Connecticut Avenue. The conversation began easily. We imperceptibly approached the main point--I wanted to find out in more detail about Ege's research, which has established the past history of subversive CIA operations in Afghanistan.

"What have we managed to find out?" Conrad Ege repeated my question. "We have established that CIA operations began in Afghanistan not later than 1978, although there are traces of American interference as far back as 1973, after the overthrow of the dictatorship of Mohammad Zahir Shah. At that time Washington adopted a program with the aim of involving Afghanistan, through the shah's Iran, in something of the nature of a pro-Western bloc centered on Tehran and installing an anticommunist regime in Kabul. On America's initiative the shah of Iran then offered Mohammad Daud, head of the country, \$2 billion dollars in exchange for stepping up the struggle against local communists."

The implementation of these plans, Conrad went on, was stepped up last spring, when W. Christopher, U.S. deputy secretary of state, set off for Turkey to "sound out" the possibilities of creating a successor to the CENTO bloc, which had disintegrated. People in Washington believed and still believe that the establishment of a regime "friendly" to the United States in Afghanistan would be a "big plus." Moreover the country would be an excellent location for American electronic surveillance devices directed against the USSR. In short, the present administration is being hypocritical and is lying when it states that its present "reaction" to events in Afghanistan is allegedly due to the presence of a limited Soviet military contingent in Afghanistan.

We have received information--reliable, it must be said--according to which CIA sabotage and subversive activity was in full swing even before the arrival of the Soviet contingent, he went on. Counterrevolutionary actions were among the duties of a special CIA group headed by Robert Lessard, located in the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad. This Lessard has great "work" experience in the region. For 10 years he was involved in training the shah's SAVAK secret police agents in Iran. Then he was transferred to Afghanistan, and in July 1977--to Pakistan. As well as him, the group also included CIA agents (J. Rigen), (D. Tarmen) and R. Jackman.

...The conversation was interrupted. The waitress brought another cup of coffee each. We drank the hot drink, and Ege went on with his story.

"Moreover," he stresses, "the CIA is not the only department 'let loose on Afghanistan.' Secret operations are also carried out by the American agency for combating narcotics, which is made up of former employees of the CIA and other intelligence organs. The agency's employees operate in the region of the Afghan-Pakistani border, and in reality they are hardly concerned about narcotics at all. However, there are reports that Afghan rebels pay for supplies of American weapons with heroin, which is sent straight to U.S. cities. The chain is very complex, but it has been established that one of its 'links' is Chinese Army military instructors who train Afghan counterrevolutionary gangs in Pakistan. In general," he adds, "Pakistan has simply become a 'paradise' for the United States, China, Egypt, Israel and others besides. All of them individually and collectively, are interfering in Afghanistan's affairs. While giving its own assistance to the rebels too, Islamabad coordinates questions of tactics and strategy with these 'interested' states."

I asked Ege: What is known about the counterrevolutionaries themselves? Who are they, these people who claim to be zealous defenders of Islam?

"That is just the point, in reality the rebels are only very remotely connected with Islam," Conrad grinned. "They are trying to shout about 'religious war,' but in fact it is the typical struggle to hold on to privileges by feudalists, who naturally include members of the clergy. In brief, all the talk about a 'holy war' against the 'Godless communists' is pure bluff."

Conrad stopped, asked for my notebook and wrote something in it. I read: "(Ziya Nezri), Zia Nasir, (Bashir Zakiya)."

"The first two," Ege explained, "are American citizens of Afghan extraction who are leading the rebels. In recent weeks the State Department and the Pentagon have had a series of conferences with them, whose content is being kept strictly secret. The third--(Zakriya)--is considered, practically the chief organizer of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries. (Zakriya) officially occupies the post of professor at Colombia University College of Therapists and Surgeons, but he probably has no time for medicine now--he is always rushing between the United States and the so-called Afghan 'refugee' camps in Pakistan."

"I would also like to point out that the CIA has its own rebel 'nursery' in the United States," Ege said in conclusion. "In the fifties, using the money of the 'Asian Society' financed by the Rockefellers, an 'Association of Afghan Students' was set up, with which the CIA soon arranged close ties. Many members of the association have worked and do work for the CIA...."

It was already dark when we said goodbye. Well-off Washington businessmen sped homeward to fashionable suburbs, leaving the central streets to the tourists, and the rest of the city to the local --mainly black--people. We agreed to telephone, to arrange another meeting.

"As soon as anything new comes up, I will let you know!" Conrad shouted, turning into Q Street.

FROLKIN VIEWS PRC DECISION TO BREAK OFF TALKS WITH VIETNAM

LD210935 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 16 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[S. Frolkin commentary: "Beijing Breaks Off Talks"]

[Text] Beijing has adopted a unilateral decision to break off for an unspecified period the Vietnamese-Chinese talks which began last April.

Let us recall that the Chinese representatives were forced to go to the conference table after the complete failure of China's armed aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The Chinese troops' invasion of Vietnamese territory showed the whole world the militarist essence of Beijing's policy and revealed its hegemonist, great-power nature. Socialist Vietnam taught the aggressors a useful lesson by discouraging them from "trespassing on other people's land" in the future.

However, even after the start of the talks the Beijing leaders continued their armed provocations on the Vietnamese border. At the same time the Chinese delegation impudently demanded that Vietnam renounce its independent foreign policy course and also end its internationalist assistance to its allies--Kampuchea and Laos. The Chinese side rejected the Vietnamese delegation's proposals for insuring peace and stability on the border and normalizing relations between the two countries.

The course adopted by Beijing of dragging out the talks on the one hand and its unceasing threats against Vietnam on the other indicate that the Beijing militarists did not draw the necessary conclusions from their defeat in the aggressive war against Vietnam but are nurturing dangerous new plans creating a hotbed of tension in Southeast Asia. China's unilateral breaking off of the talks, the newspaper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN stresses, also indicates the failure of the Beijing ruling circles' attempts to make the Vietnamese people bow to China's expansionist policy.

COMMENTARY ON RESULTS OF FIFTH CCP PLENUM

Vasilyev: Continuing 'Ideological Disorder'

LD241543 Moscow NOYOYE VREMYA in Russian No 11, 14 Mar 80 pp 22-23 LD

[V. Vasilyev article: "What is Behind the CCP Central Committee Plenum Decisions"]

[Text] A CCP Central Committee plenum has been held in the situation of a continuing power struggle within the upper echelon of the Chinese leadership, under conditions when the country is up against difficult problems in the political, economic, ideological and cultural spheres. The Chinese leadership itself defines the present stage as one of transition from a "state of chaos" to a situation "characterized by leadership, order, direction and aims of progress."

The communique points out that the transition to the new situation has already been completed in the main and that a political situation of "stability and cohesion, animation and cheerfulness" has taken shape. The facts, however, do not confirm such radiant assessments.

Decisions Made--Problems Remain

The situation in the PRC national economy remains strained. There has been a significant drop in the rate of increase in industrial and agricultural output, which does not meet the country's needs or the population's requirements.

The disproportions between industry and agriculture and between various industrial sectors, which last year made the Chinese leadership switch from the policy of accelerating rates in every possible way to one of "regularization," have not diminished to the extent originally supposed. Voices have been heard increasingly frequently to say that the 3 years allocated for "regularization" are too short a period.

What talk can there be of "animation and cheerfulness" if there are 20 million unemployed in the cities and if, even according to official data, 100 million people in the country are chronically undernourished?

To this must be added the problem of young people who, as during the Cultural Revolution, are being forcibly driven from the cities for settlement in the countryside, to China's remote border and mountain regions. This is still further increasing the masses' dissatisfaction with low living standards and the lack of democratic rights and freedoms. The Beijing leaders are also alarmed at the "crisis of faith" which has seized considerable sections of society. It is openly said in the Chinese leadership that many people have lost faith in the CCP.

As we see, the actual situation is far from being as radiant as the communique's compilers try to present it. And even they were forced to admit that the country is faced with a whole number of very important questions which should be resolved "urgently and very speedily."

The plenum adopted a decision to convene the 12th, extraordinary CCP Congress. It is promised that the congress will answer the most burning questions connected with carrying out modernization. It is also planned to hear a report on the work of the CCP Central Committee Central Commission of Discipline Verification and to adopt new party rules. It is pointed out here that the draft revised rules make "strict demands" on party members and that it is necessary to put a decisive stop to phenomena of lack of organization and discipline and to factionalism.

This Is Not "de-Maoization"

Liu Shaoqi, former chairman of the PRC and vice chairman of the CCP Central Committee, is posthumously being rehabilitated. During the Cultural Revolution he was named as a champion of the "revisionist line" and chief of the "bourgeois staff" and was subjected to repression. The 12th CCP Central Committee Plenum, held in October 1968, adopted a decision to expel Liu Shaoqi from the party's ranks in perpetuity, to remove him from all posts inside and outside the party and to "continue settling accounts" with him and with persons reckoned his confederates. It has now been decided to annul the charges against Liu Shaoqi, to annul the "erroneous resolution" removing him from all posts and to restore Liu's name as one of the chief party and state leaders.

The communique presents the decision to rehabilitate Liu Shaoqi as proof that the CCP adheres to the principle of respecting facts and correcting mistakes and that it is an earnest party. But how do things stand with regard to "respecting facts" in reality?

While essentially admitting the erroneousness of mass repression and of many guidelines of the Cultural Revolution, at the same time the Chinese leadership is trying to shift all the responsibility onto Lin Biao and the gang of four, while protecting Mao Zedong. However, it is known that none other than Mao Zedong guided the work of the 12th CCP Central Committee Plenum, which adopted the decisions concerning Liu Shaoqi. He delivered a speech there justifying the Cultural Revolution, the breakup of party organs and organs of people's power and the reprisals against CCP leaders and party members whom he disliked. [paragraph continues]

It is also known that at the 11th CCP Congress in August 1977 Hua Guofeng, swearing allegiance to Mao's ideas and extolling his "scientific thesis" on persons in the party "invested with power and traveling the capitalist road," declared that such "incorrigible capitalist roaders" as Liu Shaoqi "really represent the chief danger of the restoration of capitalism."

In connection with Liu Shaoqi's rehabilitation some people in the West have started speaking of an acceleration of "de-Maoization" in China. There is no denying that any new admission of the mistakes and crimes of the Cultural Revolution leads objectively to a further undermining of the Mao cult. And this is the direction being taken by measures to reject many Maoist guidelines in the economic, political and cultural spheres, which brought the country's national economy "to the brink of collapse," opened up scope for the "spread of fascist dictatorship" and "undermined" the cause of culture and public education. There is no unanimous attitude toward the "great helmsman's" ideological and theoretical legacy even within the Chinese leadership itself. But all this still does not signify "de-Maoization."

It is quite obvious that the present Chinese leadership is seeking to preserve loyalty to the chief aspect of Mao's policy--nationalism, great-powerism and hegemonism, which underplay his ideas and were the mainspring of all his actions. It clings to the Maoist concepts of a "strong China" capable of lecturing other countries and peoples and showing them how to live, with whom they should be on friendly terms and whom they should fight. It seeks to preserve the system of military-bureaucratic dictatorship laid down during the Cultural Revolution. It needs to preserve the Mao cult in some form to justify its antisocialist domestic and foreign policy, to justify its anti-Sovietism and its gamble on world war. To this end all the blame for the mistakes and blunders is heaped onto Lin Biao and the gang of four, who are artificially isolated from Mao Zedong. This is why, protecting Mao, the Beijing leaders spoke at the plenum of the need to "restore the true aspect of Mao's ideas." A RENMIN RIBAO editorial devoted to the results of the plenum directly points out that not only at the present time but also in the future Mao's ideas "will play an important, guiding role in our cause."

Changes in the Upper Echelon

The plenum devoted great attention to organizational questions. A decision was adopted to remove from all party and state posts those people thrown up by the Cultural Revolution--Wang Dongxing, vice chairman of the CCP Central Committee, and Ji Dengkui, Wu De and Chen Xilian, members of the Central Committee Politburo. The communique states that they committed "serious mistakes." Let us recall that they were connected with the gang of four. By all accounts, not the least role in this removal of the "new four" was played by the power struggle between the products and the victims of the Cultural Revolution, as well as by Deng Xiaoping's private scores. At any rate, the words about "an excellent situation of stability and cohesion" sound rather absurd when four members of the Central Committee Politburo are removed from their posts simultaneously.

The CCP Central Committee Politburo Standing Committee now includes Hu Yaobang and Zhao Ziyang, who are considered supporters of Deng Xiaoping. The Central Committee Secretariat has been recreated. Hu Yaobang has now been appointed to the post of general secretary, which was held by Deng Xiaoping before the start of the Cultural Revolution. Hu Yaobang was for a long time secretary of the Communist Youth League Central Committee and then first secretary of the CCP Provincial Committee in Shaanxi.

We have here a clear reshuffling of forces in the upper echelon of the Chinese leadership in favor of Deng Xiaoping's grouping. In this connection many Western commentators express the opinion that Hua Guofeng retains his leading role only nominally, while in fact he is a general without an army and will apparently have to give up some of his posts either at the upcoming CCP congress or at the next session of the National People's Congress. It is pointed out that Deng Xiaoping has been given a free hand to pursue his own course.

As regards this course, an idea of it can be gained from Deng Xiaoping's instruction to accelerate the pace of economic development as a result of further belt tightening, from the special concern of the vice premier of the State Council for Accelerating the Army's Rearmament and also from the recent aggression organized against Socialist Vietnam. The plenum decision to eliminate the citizens' right recorded in the PRC Constitution to "express opinions, expound views, hold discussions and stick up wall posters" is also ascribed to Deng Xiaoping's initiative. As you see, the present Chinese leaders approach democratic rights from utilitarian positions. They are not averse to playing on these rights if they can use this for the struggle against their opponents, but they are ready to clamp down on them as soon as people go beyond the limits prescribed for them and begin coming out for their rights to participate in the administration of state and society affairs and demand a better life.

Gamble on Hegemonism

Of course, the removal of one "four" or another does not insure stability in society. The struggle in the ruling clique is far from over. Reports have appeared in the Chinese press on the need to "purge party ranks." It must not be forgotten that of the 38 million CCP members more than half are products of the Cultural Revolution who wish neither to give up their posts nor to agree to Deng's many directives.

Instability in the leadership and in society as a whole is predetermined by the lack of unity on basic questions of economic development, ideological work and foreign policy. The incessant internal political struggle is the result, above all, of the contradiction between the socialist form of ownership and the antisocialist nature of the Beijing leaders' domestic and foreign policies.

The decisions of the Fifth CCP Central Committee Plenum confirm that the CCP has not overcome its organizational breakdown or eliminated ideological disorder.

The Chinese leadership's political course is founded on the ideas inherited from Mao of creating a militarist China gambling on achieving hegemonist aims, on forming a bloc with imperialism and on war. The plenum directed its efforts toward insuring conditions for the implementation of the present Beijing leaders' line. But this course can lead neither to society's genuine cohesion, nor to the present regime's stability, nor to the implementation of the plans for the economy's modernization.

Sergeyev, Timoshin: 'Inconsistency, Contradictoriness'

ID241027 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 80 Morning Edition P 5 LD

[Article by N. Sergeyev and V. Timoshin: "The Crisis Has Not Been Overcome"]

[Text] In connection with the CCP Central Committee Fifth Plenum held in late February the Chinese press is writing at length and with emphasis about the "atmosphere of stability and cohesion" in the country. The plenum results are depicted as a decisive contribution to the creation of this atmosphere. [paragraph continues]

There is extensive propaganda of efforts made in the past 3 years, particularly since the CCP Central Committee Third Plenum (December 1978), to "strengthen and improve party leadership" and, above all, as the paper RENMIN RIBAO puts it, to solve the "chief question"--the "regulation and replenishment of the leading nucleus" of the party.

In fact, you have to agree that Beijing's chief preoccupation in recent years has been "organizational matters" or, to put it bluntly, the reshuffling and purging of leading components of the party administrative apparatus and army command. You only have to recall that the period prior to the fifth plenum saw the removal or transfer of around 30 provincial leaders and at least 20 military district commanders and leaders of people's liberation army institutions. It was not unexpected, therefore, when the plenum decided on significant cadre changes in the upper echelon of party leadership--the biggest since the 1976 "ouster" of the well-known Maoist gang of four, including the late "helmsman's" wife, Jiang Qing.

This time another "gang of four" originating from the Cultural Revolution was removed. They were CCP Central Committee Deputy Chairman Wang Dongxing and Central Committee Politburo members Chen Xilian, Wu De and Ji Dengkui. Foreign commentators noticed, in particular, that all the people removed from office had once opposed Deng Xiaoping's reinstatement in leading posts. It is with this that they primarily associate the "serious errors" with which these figures were charged at the plenum. Nor did the repeated self-flagellation to which the press says they have recently subjected themselves keep them in power.

Analyzing the additions to the CCP leadership and the composition of the revived Central Committee Secretariat, headed by Hu Yaobang (who was co-opted to the Politburo little more than a year ago, commentators note the obvious preponderance of supporters of the so-called "pragmatic" wing.

The plenum thus confirmed another regrouping of forces within the Beijing elite in the course of an internecine struggle between factions. However, there are no grounds for regarding this struggle as ended, as certain bourgeois commentators are tending to conclude in their haste to declare Deng Xiaoping virtually the "sole ruler" in Beijing.

It is not just a matter of personal rivalry, of course. The plenum essentially admitted that the top leadership still lacks unity in its approach to the solution of the very acute problems facing the country and does not have a clear-cut program of actions to realize the ambitious goals of the country's "modernization."

This is indicated by the plenum communique's remarks on "a whole range of very important questions" which "have to be solved on an urgent and immediate basis." These problems include the elaboration of a long-term national economic development program, questions of economic policy and people's education and also a multitude of other, what the plenum documents call "very important questions of state political life and party life and, moreover, a number of very important ideological and theoretical questions."

It is no accident that all these problems, although "urgent," as the plenum itself admitted, have been put aside until the 12th congress, the actual date of which has not been established.

Apparently, Deng Xiaoping and his supporters have not yet managed to gain unconditional support for the course and principles which, judging by Chinese press reports, were formulated in his report "on the present moment and tasks," delivered behind closed doors at a leading cadres' conference in Beijing in mid-January, that is, not long before the Central Committee plenum was convened. This report was called a "very important" party document and its discussion and "study" were organized throughout the country.

The Chinese press has published a number of articles setting out, directly or indirectly, the directives contained in Deng Xiaoping's speech. What do they demonstrate?

Deng advocates the acceleration at all costs of the country's reorganization, giving as reasons for this the "complication of the international situation" and the resultant growth of China's "responsibility" in the struggle against "hegemonism", by which Beijing means the Soviet Union. It is worth recalling that less than a year ago Deng Xiaoping was actually called to order for being too keen on "leap-forward" methods of solving economic problems. Deng was also accused of pursuing the policy of wantonly speeding up contracts and deals with firms in capitalist states for this purpose.

It was then that Beijing took steps to "regulate" the Chinese economy over a 3-year period. There was a lot of talk also about seeking its own, "Chinese path of modernization."

But, as we can see, this did not suit Deng and his supporters. Following the line toward transforming China into a superpower by the end of the century, the Chinese press conducted a massive propaganda campaign in the spirit of the well-known "thoughts" of Mao on the need for "stubborn and selfless struggle," self-sacrifice, self-denial and so forth. People were again urged to "ignore hardship," "not to seek reward" and "not to make excessive demands."

Old wine in new bottles.... And how familiar it all is to the Chinese, of whom entire generations grew up in the shadow of Mao Zedong's notorious slogan "poverty is good"! The working people are being persuaded to tighten their belts and say goodbye to their hopes of a better life for the sake of implementing the program for building a "powerful China" fully "prepared for war" and for the implementation of expansionist plans in Asia. In fact, the first test of these designs was last year's aggression against Socialist Vietnam.

Naturally, the measures adopted in recent months to suppress the working people's discontent and launch an offensive against Chinese citizens' rights and freedoms, are in full accordance with this course. The country's punitive apparatus is being strengthened and the army is once again being allotted the function of protecting "social order." Reprisals against all dissidents are effectively being widened on the pretext of combatting "anti-social elements." On Deng's initiative the CCP Central Committee Fifth Plenum recommended the annulment of the provisions of Article 45 of the PRC Constitution proclaiming the citizens' rights to "voice an opinion, express views, hold discussions and put up Dazibao."

By an irony of fate, or rather by force of hypocritical logic, the Beijing's widely publicized "democracy wall," which contributed to the launching in fall 1978 of an offensive against the Cultural Revolution faction, is now condemned to demolition. Deng Xiaoping has no further need of "grand democracy."

A new widespread party purge is on the agenda. The Chinese press is talking openly again about the need to "purge the party ranks" and "improve the qualitative composition" of the party. When the latest major leadership reshuffle is over the purge will immediately turn its attention to the lower party levels where there is still a large stratum of products of the Cultural Revolution and people who disagree with the present leadership's course. At the same time, the grouping controlling the CCP central apparatus intends to carry out what it regards as an essential indoctrination of party cadres and prepare accordingly for the forthcoming 12th congress.

Of special interest in this plane was the decision on Liu Shaoqi approved by the plenum. This action, a long time in the making and long predicted by observers, cannot be assessed simply.

The review of the case and posthumous rehabilitation of Liu Shaoqi, former PRC chairman and vice chairman of the CCP Central Committee, were an integral part of a nearly 4-year campaign during which virtually all of the leading Chinese figures "overthrown" during the Cultural Revolution were rehabilitated, apart from Liu. Some of the most odious and obsolete Maoist postulates were also revised or obliterated.

As is known, Liu had come in for reprisals at the beginning of the Cultural Revolution on a charge of pursuing a "counterrevolutionary revisionist line," as boss of the "bourgeois headquarters." These charges were a pretext for further reprisals against CCP cadres who were a nuisance to Mao Zedong and formed the basis of the entire ideological and political platform of the Cultural Revolution. By rehabilitating Liu Shaoqi, completely exonerating him and repudiating the decision of the 12th Plenum of the CCP Central Committee, Eight Convocation (1968), concerning Liu Shaoqi, the recent plenum effectively acknowledged the invalidity of the Cultural Revolution too. In an article published in connection with the fifth plenum the CCP theoretical journal HONGQI writes bluntly that the Cultural Revolution was a "period of unprecedented abnormality in the country's political life."

The plenum decisions also throw up another aspect of the matter. Although making eloquent admissions in connection with Liu Shaoqi the plenum once again, contrary to logic and the facts, blamed "Lin Biao, the gang of four and company" for the tragic consequences of the Cultural Revolution. Thus, the CCP leadership dared not (or rather chose not to) say that it was Mao who, as he himself acknowledged, "kindled the Cultural Revolution" and "personally led" it.

Moreover, the plenum decisions blasphemously represent Liu Shaoqi's rehabilitation as "the restoration of the true character of the thoughts of Mao." As if emphasizing this point, which clearly reflects an intention to prevent the person of Mao and--above all--Maoism from being discredited, an editorial article in the CCP Central Committee organ RENMIN RIBAO devoted to the results of the fifth plenum stressed: "The thoughts of Mao Zedong are a valuable spiritual asset for our party and the Chinese people, not only now, but in the future too these thoughts will play an important guiding role in our cause."

The late Liu Shaoqi has not just been rehabilitated. He is now lauded to the skies and his "imperishable services" in the history of the Chinese revolution are extolled with the obvious intention of reinforcing with his authority, as coauthor of "Sinicized Marxism," the Beijing leadership's current political course. It is characteristic that publications of Liu Shaoqi deliberately omit everything relating to the foreign policy platform of the Eighth CCP Congress (at which, as is known, Liu delivered the political report) which had a distinct anti-imperialist, internationalist thrust. The shielding of Mao Zedong and the theory and policy of Maoism is one of the primary causes of the protracted crisis suffered by the CCP, a crisis dominating all aspects of the life of Chinese society. It is manifested in the country's unresolved economic problems, which are essentially becoming chronic, and in the country's orientation toward the fatal path of militarism and foreign expansion, which contradicts its true national interests. The crisis is also expressed in the profound disorientation of party and working masses on whom the wanton ideology of Maoism continues to be imposed. It is also manifested in the growing social tension in the country, in the endless purges, the stifling of democracy and the suppression of the working people's legitimate rights and demands.

The recent CCP Central Committee plenum with its inconsistency and contradictoriness is a further confirmation of this. One agrees with bourgeois observers who see the plenum as basically one that avoided a realistic reply to questions posed by life and one at which the different groupings remaining in the CCP leadership strove to smooth out the contradictions and play for time.

FRG, JAPAN CONDEMNED FOR 'PROVOCATIVE ANTI-SOVIETISM'

LD241932 Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 24, TASS--To outdo one another in anti-Sovietism--this is probably the task set for themselves by the heads of the defence departments of Japan and the FRG during their meeting held here today. "An exchange of opinions on issues of the international situation" between Kichizo Hosoda, head of the National Defense Agency of Japan, and the FRG Defence Minister Hans Apel, now on an official visit here, abounded in fresh provocative fabrications about an alleged "Soviet military threat".

The aim of these attacks is clear. Under their guise, the ruling circles and the military of Japan and the FRG, nudged on by Washington in every way, are attempting to convince the general public of their respective countries of the "need" for a further build-up of military preparations.

However, the present visit by head of the Bundeswehr to the Japanese Islands is conspicuous for other reasons as well. Local analysts regard it as another step towards the establishment of permanent military links between Japan and countries-members of the aggressive NATO bloc with which "the land of the rising sun" is linked, in the words of Kichizo Hosoda, by "spiritual bonds". This cooperation will be, among others, on development and improvement of military technologies.

The drawing of Japan into the global system of military alliances created by the United States in different parts of the globe, which has intensified in recent years, is corroborated by the results of the trips of Japanese high-ranking military to West European countries, participation of Japanese warships and aircraft in the recent large-scale "RIMPAC-80" manoeuvres in central Pacific with the participation of armed forces of countries members of the aggressive blocs of NATO and ANZUS. Such a policy which runs counter to the interests of peace and security in Asia meets with a resolute rebuff from the democratic public of Japan which demands that the government pursue a peaceful and independent foreign policy course.

USTINOV GREETES ABHIA ON MONGOLIAN ARMY ANNIVERSARY

LD240809 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Mar 80 p 1 LD

[Text] To Col Gen Comrade J. Abhia, defense minister of the Mongolian People's Republic.

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and myself I send you and all Mongolian servicemen cordial congratulations and fraternal combat greetings on the 59th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Army.

We note with profound satisfaction that the friendship and cooperation between the armed forces of the Soviet Union and the Mongolian People's Republic are developing and strengthening with every passing day to the good of socialism and peace in Asia and in the interests of our common security.

On this significant day I wish you, Comrade Minister, and all Mongolian People's Army personnel further successes in strengthening your socialist motherland's defense capability.

With communist greetings,

[Signed] Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR defense minister

MOSCOW DARI: DEMCHENKO COMMENTS ON SOVIET MILITARY AID

TA250817 Moscow in Dari to Afghanistan 1530 GMT 22 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Dear listeners: Today we continue our commentary by Pavel Demchenko, the well-known Soviet journalist, on the military cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA]. In his previous article he commented on the complex situation created in Afghanistan when the Government of Afghanistan headed by Nur Taraki had asked for the Soviet Union's help in order to suppress the imperialist countries' aggression. Now the continuation of Pavel Demchenko's article:

(?When the danger of foreign intervention grew, the pleas of the DRA Government to the Soviet Union multiplied.) The USSR Government did not hasten to answer these pleas due to the fact that it did not consider that the Soviet troops should enter Afghan territory, that only some military units could be sent there. [Words indistinct] and the Afghan Army would be able to suppress foreign aggression if this Army was armed and if Soviet advisers and instructors were sent to Afghanistan. [Words indistinct] A number of Afghan soldiers would be trained in Soviet military schools. In the beginning the situation was such, but outside danger kept growing: The Americans, Chinese, Pakistanis and British as well as other forces tried to topple the Afghan Government. After the assassination of Nur Mohammad Taraki when Amin came to power, (?the imperialists arranged things so that) Amin would come to power so that favorable grounds would be established for the destruction of the democratic regime and Afghanistan would be returned to a feudal order. Under such conditions, the new government was obliged to ask for the Soviet Union's help.

I have been told in Kabul that in 1979 the DRA Government asked several times for the Soviet Union's military help. But the fulfillment of such pleas would create several problems: The Soviet Government regarding these [words indistinct] resorted to a very cautious approach since friendly Afghanistan is our old friend and the Soviet Union could not leave Afghanistan alone in such an affliction. The Soviet Union considers it its duty to defend Afghanistan's sovereignty, especially when [words indistinct] American presence in Afghanistan territory could damage the Soviet Union's national interests. Both the national interests of the DRA and the Soviet Union would be damaged in this way.

As Leonid Brezhnev declared, the decision to dispatch Soviet troops to Afghanistan was not an easy one for the USSR due to the great financial cost as well as (?to international repercussions). But finally, when the situation developed so that the very territorial integrity of Afghanistan was threatened, this decision was taken. In December 1979 a limited number of Soviet troops were dispatched to Afghanistan. This contingent was sent to defend Afghanistan against foreign aggression and this is the main duty of Soviet troops stationed in Afghan's territory. It must be stated that the local Afghani officials completely agree to the presence of the Soviet military forces and their duties regarding the defense of Afghan interests against foreign danger.

The question of the Afghans' reaction to the presence of Soviet troops in their country now arises. I have discussed this matter with different people and heard their opinion regarding stationing Soviet troops on their soil. For example Nur Ahmad, supervisor of [word indistinct] factory said: The people of the USSR are our brothers, they have helped us build this factory and now they are helping us defend the sovereignty of our republic.

It is in the Afghan nation's interest to cooperate with the Soviet Union since Afghanistan has not witnessed any evil actions by the Soviet Union, on the contrary it has witnessed only good things so that the entry of Soviet troops to Afghanistan is mainly to help Afghanistan fight its external enemies.

Now listen to Mohammad, the owner of a leather shop in the center of Kabul: From time to time disorders occur in our country as well as acts of banditry. The entry of Soviet troops will help the country defend itself against foreign aggressive acts and the DRA Government will be capable of restoring order in the country. Now I draw your attention to Mohammad Dost's statement while he was the guest of Andrey Gromyko in Moscow: Regarding the stationing of Soviet troops Comrade Dost said: I would like to express the opinion of my country's leadership on the matter of the unprecedented and multilateral aid from the Soviet Union for the strengthening of the Afghan revolutionary successes and the installment of a new progressive government in Afghanistan which is of the utmost importance. At present the help of the limited Soviet contingent which has been sent to Afghanistan to answer the plea of our leaders as well as the multilateral help of the people of the USSR are very important for the continuation of Afghanistan on the path opened by the 1978 revolution.

Dear listeners you are able to see that three different persons welcome the stationing of Soviet troops in Afghan territory and consider it a principle cause for [word indistinct], knowing that they will bring peace. It must be pointed out that Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, while giving a full answer to this question, said: Regarding the Soviet troops in Afghanistan [word indistinct] their withdrawal will take place on the condition that all dangers regarding the nation and Government of the DRA cease completely. The United States and the neighbors of Afghanistan should guarantee this. As can be understood, hints about China and Pakistan are being given when the United States and Afghanistan's neighbors cease interfering in that country, then there will not be any need for Soviet aid to Afghanistan. In other words, the moment foreign interference in Afghanistan stops, and the Afghan Government sees that the stationing of Soviet troops in its territory is not necessary, these troops shall be withdrawn from Afghanistan. By that time the Soviet Union will come to the conclusion that its troops have accomplished their duty in Afghanistan, they have defended the sovereignty of their friendly country, this country is now able to defend its territorial integrity and establish a new life in peace.

Dear listeners, here ends today's article by Pavel Demchenko.

BRITISH REPORTER DISCUSSES SOVIET CHEMICAL WARFARE IN AFGHANISTAN

LD260936 London BBC Television Network in English 2145 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Peter Snow "Newsnight" interview with journalist Eric Abraham]

[Text] [Snow] Well, now to Afghanistan, and the first likely identification of at least one chemical gas being used there by Soviet forces. After eyewitness accounts given to "Newsnight," chemical warfare experts have tonight identified one gas as (?DM) a gas considered to be more debilitating than the old crowd control gas (?CS). It has been reported recently that the Russians have stepped up their gas attacks, but information has been scarce and confused since all Western journalists were expelled from Afghanistan after the rebel uprising in Kabul in February. However, "Newsnight" journalist Eric Abraham has just returned, the first British journalist to get inside the country for a month.

He stayed 4 days in Kabul though on leaving he had his film confiscated. However, before entering he was in Pakistan traveling from Peshawar to the Khyber Pass and there he met rebel troops who told that they had been gassed.

[Abraham] It is only a 4-hour drive from here to Kabul, but the road through the Khyber Pass is controlled by the Moslem rebels who snipe at passing traffic from their mountain strongholds. The only sign of the Soviet forces is a helicopter on a reconnaissance flight over the ill-defined border. For the rebels it is a reminder of a weapon now used against them--chemical gas. [begin unidentified victim recording]

When the chemical bombs dropped, first it produced a kind of yellow smoke, and after that the smell was very bad and produced a very bad taste in the mouth and I was having very bad pain in the legs and in the head. [end recording]

[Abraham] It was a story I was to hear repeated a number of times by rebels and refugees in camps near the Pakistan border. The accounts varied in detail--some described different color gases--but a general picture emerged of the use of a kind of chemical which incapacitates for a limited period of time. The gas canisters are usually dropped from Soviet helicopters. At one rebel base near Peshawar in Pakistan I was told that villagers had died as a result of the gas. But their accounts were vague, and varied on repetition. Reliable information on the fighting inside Afghanistan is hard to come by and one rebel leader gave me his account. [begin unidentified rebel recording]

The government forces are also nil in comparison with the Soviet forces in Afghanistan but as you can see except in Kabul where you see lots of red, that is the Soviet forces. [as heard] [end recording]

[Abraham] But his is only one of the six rebel groups. Each provides different information, all of which is impossible to check. The rebels remain as disunited as before and unlikely to present a formidable opposition to the Soviet Army in Afghanistan.

[Snow] Now Eric before you tell us how you found life in Kabul itself how precise can we be about the kind of gas the Russians are said to be using?

[Abraham] Well, from the accounts from the Afghan refugees and the rebels we do have a very clear picture of the symptoms that they suffered from these gas attacks. And it seems to be that they are using a chemical incapacitator to soften up areas before they move in with conventional weapons. And when I put the symptoms that I had heard to a leading expert on chemical weapons in this country he came out outright with the identification of a kind of chemical substance called (?DM) which is a cross between riot control or (?CS) gas and a lethal toxic substance.

[Snow] You were 4 days in Kabul. Did you get the impression the Russian occupation there was now accepted by the people?

[Abraham] By no means, on the surface the city is calm and people go about their daily business, although of course there is an overwhelming presence of Soviet tanks and armored personnel carriers. And yet despite the very real and tangible atmosphere of fear, almost every Afghan I spoke to--taxi drivers, shopkeepers--openly admitted their opposition to the Soviet occupation.

[Now] What's it like working as a journalist in Afghanistan at the moment?

[Abraham] Well, at the moment most Western journalists, or all Western journalists, are banned from operating inside Afghanistan. So to declare oneself a journalist at the airport means a one-way ticket out. And once you are in there is a number of difficulties. You are closely observed, and most [word indistinct] have a party cadre or secret policeman who maintains a close watch on the foreigners, and people are not willing to talk, apart from expressing their dislike for the Russian troops, and you also run a very high risk of being arrested and charged as a spy, and Kabul at the moment, and indeed the rest of Afghanistan, seem to be in the middle of a spy mania. The Karmal government is holding 2 Americans, 2 Chinese, 1 Egyptian and 16 Pakistanis on suspected spying charges.

[Snow] What sort of impression did you get about the way the new Afghan Government, Babrak Karmal's government, is getting itself stuck in, making itself established as the Government of Afghanistan. Is there any kind of feeling that the Russians are going to be handing over to anybody soon?

[Abraham] Yes there is. Certainly there is a kind of people's revolutionary resistance movement being created. These are trusted party cadres who have been given weapons and who in time it is expected will take over the job of policing the cities so that the Russian troops can withdraw to less conspicuous positions on the outskirts.

[Snow] But what do you think they will do, pull out altogether or do something else?

[Abraham] It is unlikely that they will pull out altogether. The situation inside Kabul particularly would not hold without the two Soviet divisions encamped on the slopes of the mountains, and ever present at every bridge and every cross section in the city.

[Snow] From all the talking that you did privately in Kabul, what do you think is the likely course of events in the next few months?

[Abraham] Well it seems that the Soviet troops are waiting for the spring and the snows to thaw before launching a major offensive in most parts of the country to mop up any or all of the serious rebel resistance. The consensus among Western diplomats in Kabul is that they will be able to do this and will probably be able to withdraw out of the cities by the winter.

[Snow] Eric Abraham, thank you very much.

PLANNED NEW YEAR PROVOCATIONS IN KABUL FAIL

ID241538 Moscow TASS in English 1524 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 24, TASS--Despite provocative calls and predictions by the American and British press, the traditional new-year holidays, which coincide in Kabul with the advent of spring, have not been darkened by any sallies of reaction in the capital of Afghanistan. The enemies of the Afghan people undoubtedly made preparations to disrupt the peaceful life of the city. But their hopes were not to be materialized.

A few days before the new year, bandit formations of mercenaries, trained and armed in Pakistan, suffered yet another defeat in the eastern part of the country, in the frontier Province of Konarha. The bandits, led by former feudals and now hired agents of the United States, China and the most reactionary forces of the Moslem world, wrecked roads, public buildings, schools, brutally dealt with teachers, party functionaries, killed women, captured children and took them as hostages to camps of the so-called "Afghan refugees" on the Pakistani territory.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has entered the year 1359 by the Afghan calendar, firmly determined to steadily follow the lines of building a new society. Newspapers printed today a message of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan on the occasion of the new academic year. In the message it is stressed that the April revolution has opened for the country a way to genuine independence and prosperity. More than 1,300,000 children are to be covered by the school education system this year--21 per cent more than last year. But the implementation of this task will depend on how successfully the actions of the enemies of the Afghan revolution will be neutralized.

In the first days of the new year the government of the republic projected a number of measures to improve the economic standing of the country, and it is exactly in this sphere that the enemy agents are trying to inflict the greatest damage upon people's power. Fixed prices of sugar were introduced, specifically, which is bound to strike a blow on profiteers. In connection with torrential rains that poured down in many provinces these days, it has been decided to give extensive material aid to the victims of floods and mud streams.

PROKHANOV VIEWS SOVIET SERVICEMEN RELATIONS WITH AFGHANS

ID241509 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Mar 80 p 9 LD

[Special correspondent Aleksandr Prokhanov "Reportage From Afghanistan": "Time for Plowing and Sowing"]

[Text] Kabul--A Soviet artillery unit had pitched camp in the foothills. Carefully, moving along the edges of the wet fields to avoid touching and trampling over the patchwork of peasant holdings, it had taken up a position near some rocks. The soldiers were hacking at the rock with shovels, covering the guns, putting the camouflage in place. Two oxen, harnessed to a wooden plow, walked by slowly and an old man, soaking wet, was leaning on the ancient tool. He reached the boundary; his gaze met a soldier's. They smiled and nodded, then the boy suddenly left his shovel, reached for the plow and off they went shoulder to shoulder, following the oxen and cutting a black furrow....

A field kitchen. The cook is ladling rich, steaming stew and chunks of meat into soldiers' messkits. A little way off a crowd of peasants from a neighboring kishlak are watching the soldiers' meal. There are invitations, arms are waved, and there they are together--soldiers' field uniforms and Afghan robes and turbans. They sit **outside** the tents. They break freshly baked wheat loaves. You are welcome to anything a soldier has....

As I visit the garrisons of Soviet troops that have come here, to central Asia in response to a call for assistance and are a barrier in the way of the republic's external enemies, I am seeing what relations are like between our soldiers and ordinary Afghans if fate suddenly brings them together at a halt, on a mountain path or in a kishlak.

Our soldiers are unaffected, good-natured, outgoing, ready to help. The young Soviet boys, finding themselves suddenly a long way from home, among another people, coming up against a different way of life, wondering at the local peasants' poverty, astonished at people's desire for a better fate, a better lot, are gaining here not simply experience, experience of military service, but tremendous moral experience--of fraternity, love--and the social experience of people before whose eyes a people's revolution is being accomplished. This experience and increasing human maturity are clearly shown in the innumerable cases of not military, but peaceful assistance given to the Afghan population by our soldiers.

Bandits had blown up a cliff, blocked the roads and destroyed bridges, stopping all movement in the country and condemning it to hunger and a blockade. Soviet motorized riflemen, sometimes under fire from the bandits, spent 10 hours at the controls of bulldozers clearing the obstructions. They finished the job and the first things to pass along the cleared routes were mules laden with rice and trucks carrying necessities.

Marauding bandits set fire to a village school and began to force their way into houses. The peasants ran to a Soviet unit for help. I saw our soldiers dash into the flames to drag out desks, books, teaching aids--the simple school equipment the village had obtained with such difficulty. They greived together with the peasants. They took axes and repaired the fire-damaged school, built the roof, raised the porch.

Viktor Alekseyevich Lavrishchev, political instructor in one formation told me:

"Our soldiers have brought peace and good to Afghanistan. When we entered the country the inhabitants met us with fruit and cookies. I remember that one old man pressed himself against a tank and kissed the dusty armor. We don't keep at a distance from the local population; we meet with them and show movies about the Soviet Union, Lenin and the revolution. Our army does not interfere in the internal processes taking place in Afghanistan. The local reactionaries are being dealt a fitting rebuff by Afghan patriots themselves. Our force is directed against the external threat, wherever it may come from...."

I am driving along the track with the motorized riflemen and an infantry combat vehicle is coming in the other direction. On the trailer behind it is not a gun, not a mortar, but a tractor trailer carrying packs of grain, with an old Afghan in a turban sitting on top. The cooperative tractor's motor had broken down but the peasants were waiting for their seeds. It is the time of plowing and sowing.

PRAVDA'S MIRONOV REPORTS ON AFGHAN SPRING SOWING CAMPAIGN

LD190922 Moscow TASS in English 0840 GMT 19 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 19, TASS--PRAVDA carries a report by Leonid Mironov, its correspondent in Kabul, on the start of the sowing campaign in Afghanistan, on the aid of the state to the peasants. "The implementation of the program of spring agricultural work has been started in Afghanistan's southern provinces. The program drawn up by the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan provides, in particular, for the distribution among agricultural cooperatives of 700 tractors and establishment of machine and tractor stations in Qondozi, Baghlan, Balkh, and Herat provinces.

As the correspondent was told at the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform, at present 1,199 agricultural cooperatives have been formed in Afghanistan, whose funds from entrance and membership fees total nearly 66 million afghani. The cooperatives have chiefly production as well as trade and sale functions. The peasants are supplied through the cooperatives on beneficial terms with chemical fertilizers, building materials and agricultural implements.

The first national conference of farmers has been recently held in Kabul with the participation of secretaries of provincial party committees, governors of provinces, directors of state farms and agricultural cooperatives, representatives of the clergy. The conference addressed all peasants and agricultural workers with a call for carrying out at a good organizational level the spring sowing campaign. In keeping with the decision of the conference, Afghanistan's agricultural development bank and the Afghan fertilizer company are assisting cooperatives and individual farms with credits and fertilizers. The Ministry of Commerce has been instructed to assist the peasants in the sale of their products. The Soviet Union and a number of other socialist countries are giving great aid to Afghan crop-growers this year by supplying them with seeds and agricultural equipment.

BBC REPORT ON ANTI-SOVIET PROTEST IN PAKISTAN 'FALSE'

LD221856 Moscow TASS in English 1841 GMT 22 Mar 80 LD

["Wishful Thinking"--TASS headline]

[Text] Islamabad, March 22, TASS--The BBC radio station started today its broadcasting for the Asian countries with a report that a demonstration of protest against "Soviet interference in Afghanistan" was allegedly held here yesterday at the building of the Soviet Embassy in Pakistan.

This "revelation" by the BBC, which likes to publicize its information with the use of such descriptions as "true", "objective", etc., was at least surprising to the local journalist and diplomatic circles. It is not difficult to understand such a response: There were no demonstrations in front of the Soviet Embassy here yesterday. It seems that the BBC's report was nothing but wishful thinking.

PRAVDA COMMENTS ON NEPALESE POLITICAL SCENE, LINKS WITH USSR

LD240907 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 80 p 6 LD

[Special correspondent V. Shurygin dispatch: "The Other Side of the Himalayan Wall"]

[Excerpt] Katmandu--The democratization of the country's political and social life--this question has evidently become a firmly established item on Nepal's agenda. It is no accident therefore that King Birendra announced last December that, irrespective of the results of the referendum, henceforth the country's legislative organ would be elected by universal suffrage. In the meantime the various political parties and groups in Nepal are mobilizing their supporters and conducting election campaigns.

Panchayat democracy, Nepalese Prime Minister S.B. Thapa told me in a conversation, is based on traditional institutions, and it is closer and more comprehensible to our people. Certain other interlocutors of mine who support the panchayat system, said that in their opinion there is currently no political party in Nepal which could insure stable leadership of the country.

During my stay in Katmandu I also met with leaders of the Nepalese National Assembly, (Pradzha Parishad) and the Communist Party of Nepal. They and certain other political groupings advocate the introduction of a multiparty system of rule although serious disagreements exist between them on a whole series of questions of the country's economic and sociopolitical life and its foreign policy. Criticizing the panchayat system, its opponents consider that it gives rise to stagnation and corruption.

There also exists in Nepal a number of small but very vociferous groupings of ultra rightwing or extreme leftwing, Maoist persuasions who oppose the holding of the referendum altogether. They concentrate their main efforts on the struggle against the communists. It is they who send to the local press the anti-Soviet appeals and slogans which appear from time to time and which are obviously borrowed from the arsenal of imperialist and Maoist propaganda.

It should be noted that the majority of the opposing parties and groupings advocate the consistent pursuit by Nepal of a policy of nonalignment.

"Whatever changes take place in the domestic political situation," Foreign Minister K.B. Shahi explained in a conversation with me, "the policy of nonalignment, friendship and cooperation with all countries will remain as before the basis of our foreign policy course."

"Nepal and the Soviet Union are joined by bonds of friendship and cooperation," Nepal's King Birendra stated at the ceremony when the USSR ambassador presented his credentials to him last December. "Our relations are based on the principles of equality, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, and respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of other states." "Nepal is a developing country," he continued, "in fulfilling the important national task of economic and social development we cooperate with many friendly countries including the USSR and for this we are grateful to the people and Government of the Soviet Union."

SOVIET COVERAGE OF 12TH HUNGARIAN PARTY CONGRESS

Kadar's Main Report

LD241552 Moscow TASS in English 1444 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Budapest, March 24, TASS--Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (HSWP) said that "the international activity of the HSWP, the foreign policy of the Hungarian People's Republic will further be determined by the lofty ideals of internationalism, solidarity, friendship among peoples and principles of peaceful coexistence".

Delivering the main report at the 12th party congress, that opened here today, Janos Kadar stressed that "various imperialist forces interested in armaments and coming out against peace and social progress" are guilty of the present international tension. They "would like to disrupt the equilibrium existing at present between the two world systems. They are pressing for military superiority. This is evidenced by the NATO decision to deploy new American medium range missiles in some countries of Western Europe".

"Tension is increased also by the new attempts aimed at the further expansion of imperialism's military presence in various areas of the globe. All this creates a serious threat to peace not only in Europe but also in the whole world", Janos Kadar said.

"International tension is also aggravated by the foreign policy course of the Chinese leaders", Janos Kadar went on. "Pursuing a nationalistic, hegemonistic policy, ignoring the genuine interests of the Chinese people they are openly collaborating with extremist aggressive circles of international imperialism. Our people resolutely condemned the Chinese aggression against Socialist Vietnam which inflicted much damage not only to the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples but also to the common interests of socialism".

The speaker stressed that together with its allies--the USSR and other Warsaw Treaty member-states, the Hungarian People's Republic "is a champion of the political solution of outstanding international issues. It supports proposals directed at stopping the arms race and ensuring equal security at a lower level of armaments".

"We are ready to take any steps that would bring us closer to the great aim of general disarmament", the Hungarian leader said. "The Warsaw Treaty, within the framework of which the Hungarian People's Republic is worthily fulfilling its obligations, is ensuring its defence tasks with honour for already 25 years. The Warsaw Treaty Organisation is not aspiring for military superiority, it does not seek to impose its will on the other side, and it is fully right in expecting a similar attitude from the opposing forces".

"We consider it necessary that the Soviet-American SALT-II treaty be ratified as soon as possible and that the implementation of the NATO decision on the deployment of new American medium-range nuclear-missile weapons in countries of Western Europe be postponed. It is only thus that real conditions can be created for further talks on arms reduction", he said.

Janos Kadar stressed that Hungary "will further exert every effort for the further strengthening of the unity of socialist states, of their political, economic, cultural and ideological cooperation".

Touching on questions of the international communist movement he said that the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party "will further proceed in its international activity from the premise that the concerted actions taken on the principled basis of Marxism-Leninism, common actions, the strengthening of bilateral and multilateral ties should facilitate the consolidation of our movement's unity".

"Our party consistently subscribes to the view that differences in opinions, which arise in our movement, should be settled by way of a principled and patient exchange of views so that this would facilitate the cohesion of parties, would strengthen the forces of the movement, would facilitate the enrichment of the scientific theory of Marxism-Leninism," the speaker said.

Kirilenko Address

LD250110 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Speech by Andrey Pavlovich Kirilenko, head of the CPSU delegation, at the 24 March session of the 12th MSZMP Congress in Budapest--recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades and friends, on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, communists and all Soviet people our delegation warmly greets you, delegates to the 12th MSZMP Congress, and through you all communists and all working people of your country, Hungary.

It is a pleasure for us to convey to the MSZMP and to all the Hungarian people the cordial greetings and best wishes from the great friend of the Hungarian people, Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Leonid Ilich, who has visited your beautiful country more than once, recalls the affairs and concerns of Hungarian communists with constant fraternal attention. We listened with great interest to the report of the MSZMP Central Committee made by the experienced leader of Hungarian communists and active fighter for the prosperity of Hungarian communists and active fighter for the prosperity of his motherland, for the consolidation of unity and cooperation among countries of the socialist community and for the cohesion of the world communist movement, our militant friend and comrade in arms, Comrade Janos Kadar.

I could say a great, great deal about our deep impressions of the great successful work, the results of which are being summed up at your party congress, about the scale of tasks for the future comprehensively set out in this clear document, rich in content.

I will select the most important thing--the feeling of optimism with which the atmosphere of your congress and the life of the party and the country are permeated. That optimism has reliable sources. They lie in the Marxist-Leninist policy of the MSZMP, the selfless labor of your people, and the indestructible friendship, mutual support and all-round cooperation with the fraternal countries of socialism.

In the 1970's Socialist Hungary took a substantial step forward in its development. That which was defined in the MSZMP program statement is being implemented. Hungary today has a highly developed industry and a flourishing cooperative movement in agriculture. Front-ranking culture and science are developing fruitfully there. Modern-day Hungary is a country where every person can realize his talent, work fruitfully and live freely. That is real socialism, providing for the working people the whole gamut of human rights and liberties. It is quite logical that your party is the universally recognized, authoritative leader of the people. The ideas of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and the glorious traditions of generations of revolutionaries live on and develop in the remarkable achievements of communism by all the working people of Socialist Hungary.

This is particularly joyful to see today when our fraternal peoples and all progressive mankind are preparing to celebrate solemnly the 110th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, the genius of revolutionary thinking and action. The name Lenin is a symbol of the new socialist world, while Lenin's ideas are the most influential ideas of the 20th century.

Comrades! Vladimir Ilich Lenin stressed more than once that socialism, when it becomes a real way of life for peoples, will in no way turn into some sort of stagnant society, but on the contrary will develop dynamically, solving ever more complex tasks and overcoming shortcomings and difficulties which might arise in the innovatory work of such a giant scale as the creation of a communist civilization. We communists unswervingly proceed from Lenin's understanding of the dialectics of socialist and communist government.

It is no secret--and this is being noted at your congress--that in their progress forward it happens that the socialist countries come up against problems which are not simple. In the economic sphere the influence of various factors has been felt, not the least of which is the immediate unfavorable world economic situation. Certain complications arise, among other things, over satisfying the growing requirements for certain kinds of raw materials, and particularly energy-producing materials. We in the Soviet Union, in Hungary and other fraternal countries are paying great attention to solving this vital problem. In particular, measures are being implemented to ensure the more rational and economical use of fuel and raw material resources and electric power, and the corresponding scientific research is being carried out on a broad scale.

The Soviet Union, despite increased difficulties connected with the movement of oil and natural gas extraction to increasingly remote areas in the east of the country, has shown and continues to show concern for satisfying the energy requirements of the fraternal socialist countries. We have kept the volume of supplies of oil, petroleum products and natural gas to those countries, including the Hungarian People's Republic, at a high level. The prices for these important goods remain preferential compared with world prices. In the solution of economic problems we rely on the advantages of the socialist planning system for the national economy which enables us to develop the specialization and coordination of production on a scale embracing the whole of our great community. We have a well-tested path, following which the socialist countries can confidently storm new heights and ensure all-round progress for themselves. This is socialist economic integration. We also have an effective instrument of collective cooperation in the interests of each fraternal country and of the community as a whole--CEMA.

Permit me to recall what Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said at the Czepele Combine in 1972. When we combine our efforts, the results is not a simple composition but a multiplication of forces, stressed Leonid Ilich at that time. That idea expresses the very essence of the cooperation of the countries of socialism, and its correctness is confirmed by the whole experience of our joint practical work.

Literally the other day long-term programs for the development of specialization and coordination of production up to 1990 were signed between the Soviet Union and the Hungarian People's Republic. This is a sound plan, which in implementing our countries will undoubtedly achieve much. Developing and deepening socialist economic integration does not mean that we intend to renounce business relations with the capitalist states.

The socialist countries are supporters of equitable economic and scientific-technical cooperation between states belonging to differing social systems. But the fraternal countries have seen and see the key to the resolution of economic tasks which arise in our advance to socialism and communism in the fuller use of their possibilities and increasingly closer interaction between each other. We have every reason to state with satisfaction that over the past decades, thanks to cooperation, new important successes have been achieved and, what is no less significant, new and valuable experience in it has been obtained.

The combined efforts of the European member-countries of CEMA have built the Soyuz Gas Pipeline, cooperation has created the Vinnitsa-Albertirsa power transmission line and, with the assistance of the Soviet Union, you in Hungary are building the powerful Paks atomic power station. Those CEMA countries involved will soon start building the major Khmel'nitskaya atomic power station in the Ukraine. We are assigning an increasing importance to atomic electric power, whose role will be ever more weighty in prospect. In order to lay down a real base for a broad program of its development, as you know, one of the biggest plants, Atomash, is being built in the town of Volgodonsk for the manufacture of equipment for atomic power stations, which will also be supplied to the fraternal socialist countries.

The deepening of cooperation by the fraternal countries in the sphere of industry, particularly in machine building where the achievements of scientific-technical ideas are above all materialized, is of a highly topical importance. The new tasks placed before modern machine-tool building and machine building as a whole are so complex that their effective resolution requires the coordination of scientific-technical and production efforts and the utilization of all the best and advanced achievements from each fraternal country. It is precisely in this way that it is possible to bring about a considerable improvement in the technical performance of machine tools, machines, equipment, appliances and instruments. It is in our common interests to raise exactingness regarding the quality of reciprocal supplies of industrial products.

The tasks facing us, comrades, are great. As your congress stresses, it is clear that the application of enormous creative energy will be required for their resolution, but pursuing a consistent line for the combination of the national and international interests of the countries of the socialist community we will without doubt successfully cope with these tasks.

This is guaranteed by the powerful economic potential which has already been created by the socialist countries. It is guaranteed by the highly democratic nature of the socialist system, which raises every worker to the level of a conscious participant in historical progress, and it is guaranteed by the internationalist policy of the parties which do everything necessary so that the interaction of the socialist countries will strengthen year by year and become increasingly effective.

We look confidently to the future and we are firmly convinced that the 1980's will mark a new upsurge by the peoples of Hungary, the Soviet Union and all the fraternal socialist states. May the coming decade bring prosperity to fraternal Hungary and great creative successes in the implementation of the plans initiated by the MSZMP Congress.

Dear comrades and like-minded friends, now permit me to speak briefly about international affairs. The present situation in the world can in no way be called calm. Relations between countries with different social systems--which in the 1970's became unquestionably smoother and more multifaceted--have once again become considerably more complicated. The profound consequences of detente clearly do not suit the bellicose circles of imperialism, and first and foremost U.S. imperialism.

The objective process of progressive social change which is taking place in the world, the further strengthening of the international positions of the countries of socialism, the increase in the influence of communist and workers parties, and the fresh successes in the national liberation movement of the peoples of Africa, Asia, and Latin America--all this has alarmed international reaction. It has made up its mind to overturn detente, intensify the arms race, whip up tension and provoke complications and conflicts in various parts of the world.

The hegemonistic policy--hostile to the interests of peace and socialism--of the present Beijing leaders, who, having cast all their disguises aside, now align themselves openly with the most reactionary forces, has become a help to imperialism.

Certain people in the West have calculated that if new U.S. missiles with nuclear warheads are deployed in Europe, and if these are aimed at the Soviet Union, Hungary and other countries of socialism, and if additional military bases are set up near the territory of the countries of the socialist community, then this will make us more pliable to their imperialist pressure. This is the idea behind the decisions imposed by the United States on its NATO allies. This is the essence of the militarist program proclaimed by Carter.

But there have been attempts more than once in the past to intimidate us. Everyone knows how those attempts ended. The laws of history cannot be turned back. The language of blackmail and threats is powerless against our community.

The counterattack by imperialism is aimed not only against the socialist community. It is also directed against the national liberation movement. The buildup of the arms race in the West is accompanied by more and more frequent attempts by imperialism and its accomplices to interfere impudently in the internal affairs of states and peoples. The United States is continuing to apply crude pressure on Iran and is trying to adapt the Near East situation to its own strategic plans and economic interests. As part of this design Israel and Egypt are being given the role of bastions in the confrontation with other peoples and countries of that area. The Israeli Government has long been in the service of U.S. imperialism. Now As-Sadat's government has entered into collusion with Israel and is serving Washington's anti-Arab policy.

The same approach determines the action of the United States and its partners, primarily China, with regard to the Afghan revolution. In its still short--2 year--history there have been no small difficulties. And of course the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan would have coped successfully by itself with its internal difficulties. But it so happened that the Afghan people came up against an aggression organized by the United States, China and Pakistan--an undeclared war which threatened the very existence of Afghanistan as an independent and sovereign state.

In that dangerous situation the Soviet Union responded to the request by the legal Government of Afghanistan, and in accordance with our treaty obligations to this, our neighbor country, and with the provisions of the UN Charter, granted military aid to the Afghan people.

Our position on this matter is perfectly clear and well known. From this rostrum we would like to stress once again that as soon as aggression against Afghanistan has ceased and reliable guarantees against its renewal and against any outside interference in the affairs of the Afghan people have been given, the Soviet military contingent will be withdrawn from Afghanistan.

Comrades, the attacks of aggressive militaristic forces against detente is the source of present world tension. But we know that there are mighty forces capable of opposing attempts to draw the peoples into a new cold war and to guard them against war. The socialist community has at its disposal everything that is essential to give a dire rebuff to militarism and reaction. A major role in the defense of our peaceful gains is played by the defensive alliance of the socialist countries, the Warsaw Treaty Organization, which was founded 25 years ago.

The socialist countries are strong not only because of a sturdy defense, but also through their solidarity and unity and the justice and nobility of the aims of their policy. In this connection I would like to stress that Soviet communists value highly the active contribution of socialist Hungary and the other fraternal countries to the pressing matter of consolidating European security and the general improvement of the international atmosphere. The energetic action by the communist and workers parties against the forces of aggression and war is a great contribution to the cause of detente.

The policy of detente is of vital interest to all peoples, including the American people, and to all those who consider responsibly the future of mankind. Detente expresses the interests of the independent states of Asia, Africa and Latin America. They have an acute need for peace to reign on earth and for the enormous resources expended on armaments to be directed to creative purposes, including overcoming underdevelopment.

Detente is actively supported by the world's democratic public. Many realistically thinking statesmen in Western countries are in favor of the policy of detente. This applies not least to the business circles of the capitalist countries. In a reply, published the day before yesterday, to a statement by 654 eminent figures of American science and medicine on the dangers of nuclear war, Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stressed that he fully shares their anxiety over the fate of mankind. Comrade Brezhnev indicated that their humane activity will meet with understanding and support from the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union, Hungary and other fraternal socialist countries demonstrate their devotion to peace and the cause of detente not simply by words but by their entire policy and activity on the world's arena.

In his recent election speech, Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said that the Soviet Union cannot be intimidated by anyone. Our strength and possibilities are enormous. We and our allies are able to defend ourselves and rebuff any hostile attacks. No one will succeed in provoking us. We counterpose the doctrine of consistent struggle for peace and security on earth to the doctrine of war hysteria and feverish arms race.

As is known, we not only advance important initiatives on the problem of disarmament. We are ready to take into careful consideration the point of view of the other side, proceeding from the principle of equality and identical security. Moreover, we proceed toward the implementation of certain unilateral measures. I have in mind the withdrawal of a known contingent of Soviet troops and combat equipment from the GDR. The countries of the socialist community, as Janos Kadar pointed out in his report, favor holding the Madrid meeting, and support the initiative of the Polish comrades who proposed Warsaw as the venue for holding the European conference on the measures for trust [mery doveriya] and military detente. We continually propose the limitation of the most dangerous type of weapons--strategic offensive missiles--and we naturally support the coming into force of the SALT II treaty.

As is known, obstacles along this road have occurred because of the actions of the Carter administration and of the U.S. political circles who will cherish illusions of gaining military superiority over the world of socialism. We are for a world free of the arms race, for a world in which mutual relations between states are determined by the norms of peaceful coexistence, peaceful good neighbourliness and cooperation.

The foreign policy of socialist countries in the seventies was oriented toward this aim. This policy will remain the same also in the eighties.

Comrades, our Leninist party and all the people are concluding the 10th 5-Year Plan and are advancing toward the 26th CPSU Congress which will determine the program of further communist construction. The main creative efforts and creative labor of Soviet people are directed toward the intensification of industry and agriculture, toward raising the efficiency of production, toward the improvement of the economic mechanism. The life of the Soviet society is characterized by the high degree of social and ideological-political cohesion, by the unflagging unity and friendship of socialist nations and ethnic groups who advance under the tried leadership of the party of communists toward our highest aim--communism.

We have responded with profound emotion to the good words uttered here at the congress about the CPSU, about the Soviet people, about the outstanding fighter for the triumph of the ideas of communism and peace and true follower of the cause of great Lenin, about Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, who is dear to us all and respected by us. Many thanks to you for these fraternal feelings. In the Soviet communists, in the Soviet people you will always have true friends and brothers.

Taking this opportunity, we would like to congratulate you on the coming glorious event--the 35th anniversary of the liberation of Hungary from fascism. Dear comrades, we wish you new and great accomplishments in building a developed socialist society.

Long live the MSZMP--the combat vanguard of the Hungarian people! Let the inviolable friendship and cooperation of the Hungarian and Soviet communists, the fraternal peoples of the Soviet Union and Hungary grow in strength! Long live peace! Long live communism!

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON CSSR FOREIGN MINISTER IN USSR

PRAVDA Interview

LD241553 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 80 p 4 LD

[PRAVDA correspondent interview with CSSR Foreign Minister B. Chnoupek: "Joint Actions for the Benefit of Peace"]

[Text] B. Chnoupek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR foreign minister, is on a visit to the USSR at the Soviet Government's invitation. In a talk with a PRAVDA correspondent he noted that regular meetings between the CSSR and USSR foreign ministers are an organic part of the overall process of the all-round development of fraternal relations between our countries and the close coordination of their foreign policies.

I can state with great satisfaction that this has been fully confirmed by the talk I have just had in Moscow with A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister. Our exchange of opinions took place in a traditionally cordial and comradely atmosphere. It confirmed the complete coincidence of viewpoints on all questions discussed. The talks reflected the desire of the peoples of the CSSR and USSR to strengthen their friendship and fraternity still further and develop all-round cooperation under the leadership of the communist parties and their central committees, proceeding from the accords between Comrade G. Husak and L.I. Brezhnev.

The results of the talks which have now been held in Moscow are undoubtedly a further contribution to the implementation of our fraternal states' coordinated policy. They fully accord with the tasks of strengthening the unity and cohesion of the socialist countries.

Our talks took place at a period when the forces of imperialism are trying to complicate the international situation and spurring on the arms race. In their attempts to undermine the process of detente and weaken the socialist community they are forming a bloc with the Beijing leaders on a platform of anticommunism and anti-Sovietism. Hence the need, together with the other fraternal socialist countries and all progressive peace-loving forces, to actively prevent attempts to return the world to the cold war times.

Cooperation within the framework of CEMA and the Warsaw Pact, whose 25th anniversary we will celebrate soon, comprises the firm basis for strengthening our fraternity. This cooperation is a reliable guarantee for insuring peaceful conditions in the future too for the constructive labor of our countries' peoples.

The CSSR resolutely opposes the aggressive intrigues of imperialism, world reaction and Beijing in Afghanistan. We assess highly the principled, internationalist action of the Soviet Union, which has rendered the Afghan people aid in repelling outside aggression. We resolutely condemn the attempts by imperialist anticommunist forces to drive a wedge between the Islamic countries and the socialist states.

The CSSR is contributing to the attainment of progress in the disarmament sphere. The adoption of the CSSR's initiative of the declaration on international cooperation with a view to disarmament at the last UN General Assembly was an integral part of these efforts by the socialist countries and the world progressive public.

We categorically condemn the December decision of the NATO Council session to deploy U.S. medium-range nuclear missile weapons in Europe.

Our activity is aimed at implementing the fraternal socialist countries' idea for convening an all-European conference at political level on the question of military detente and disarmament. At the same time we intend to promote by every means the careful preparation and constructive progress of the forthcoming meeting in Madrid.

In conclusion, B. Chnoupek said, I want to note that Czechoslovakia is fully determined, together with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, to continue to march along the path of detente, international cooperation and the consolidation of peace.

Chnoupek in Tbilisi

LD221352 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 22 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, today received Chnoupek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR minister of foreign affairs, who is in our country on a visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

The minister and those accompanying him were acquainted with the main directions of the work of the republic's party organization in implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and with the way in which the working people of Georgia are preparing to mark the 110th anniversary of Vladimir Ilich Lenin's birth.

Chnoupek expressed gratitude for the hospitality. Speaking of his talks in Moscow with Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, which have just ended, he noted that an absolute unity of views exists on all key questions of mutual relations between the CSSR and the USSR, especially in the international sphere. The CSSR minister particularly stressed that meetings between Comrades Husak and Brezhnev every time provide fresh impetus for the development of fraternal friendship and cooperation between the two countries in all fields.

Chnoupek took a trip around Tbilisi, acquainted himself with the town's sights, and visited the workshop of the Georgian sculptor Merab Berdzenishvili and the Georgian Academy of Arts.

A dinner was given in the visitor's honor on behalf of the Council of Ministers of the Georgian SSR.

Results of USSR Visit

LD251002 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The visit to the USSR by Bohuslav Chnoupek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and Czechoslovak foreign minister, is over. Talks took place in Moscow between Comrades Gromyko and Chnoupek. During his visit the Czechoslovak foreign minister visited Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia. Returning to Moscow, Bohuslav Chnoupek gave an interview to our correspondent on board the aircraft. In particular he said: [begin recording]

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
EASTERN EUROPE

For me, as for every Czechoslovak communist and citizen, visiting the Soviet Union is a great event. I would say that my exchange of opinions with Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko was more important than in previous years since it took place in an atmosphere when extreme forces of reaction and imperialism have gone over to attack the peace policy of the countries in the socialist community and when extreme reaction has come out against the policy of peace and detente. I should like to note--and this is expressed unanimously in the communique on my visit to the Soviet Union--that in all the important, key questions of international life we found a common language and expressed absolutely the same opinions on all questions.

I think it is very important now that a coordinated and unified policy, reflecting the line worked out by the central committees of our parties and reflecting the philosophy of the meetings previously held at the level of general secretaries of our parties by Comrades Gustav Husak and Leonid Brezhnev is one of the decisive means of struggle when we are trying to show our conceptions in the field of foreign policy and continue the line of our parties, the line for detente and for the peaceful coexistence of countries with different social systems. We are deeply convinced that this is the only correct line, and the people of the Czechoslovakia fully support it. In this sense, the words pronounced by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev during his election speech to the electors of Baumanskiy Constituency, in which the basic, determinant thoughts on the main questions of contemporary foreign policy were expressed, were a great impetus to us.

We in Czechoslovakia, as in the Soviet Union, consider that it is necessary right now to give a resolute rebuff to the attempts of the American administration and the forces of extreme reaction to whip up tension, and we are pointing out to the Western partners the incorrectness of the policy, (particularly) in the field of such a serious and great question as the ratification of SALT II, and the decision of the NATO Council (? in Brussels) on developing missiles and deploying them in Europe. We have expressed our opinions on these events in decisions of the Central Committee of our party, and they were expressed in the foreign policy part of our discussions with Comrade Gromyko (? and other Soviet Communists). [end recording]

Departure for Home

LD240828 Moscow TASS in English 0813 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 24, TASS--Bohuslav Chnoupek, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, foreign minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, left Moscow for home today. He stayed in the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the airport the minister was seen off by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, foreign minister of the USSR, other officials.

GROMYKO RECEIVES POLISH FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL 24 MAR

LD242154 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2050 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Comrade Gromyko today received Jozef Czyrek, member of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party and under secretary of state of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who is in Moscow for consultations, and had a friendly conversation with him.

BULGARIAN OFFICIAL ON TREATY ANNIVERSARY

ID241457 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 18 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[Article by Professor Lyuben Georgiev, deputy chairman of Bulgarian State Council Council for Foreign Relations, pegged to the anniversary of the Soviet-Bulgarian treaty: "Time To Act"]

[Excerpts] Today the Bulgarian people are marking the 32d anniversary of the friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance treaty between Bulgaria and the USSR. When appending his signature to the treaty Georgi Dimitrov, Bulgaria's immortal son, said:

"Now our people and our people's republic are not merely comrades and loyal friends of the Soviet people and the Soviet Union. With the signing of this treaty they have become their loyal and devoted allies.... This is a treaty signed on a equal basis, a treaty based on the principle of loyalty in return for loyalty, friendship in return for friendship...."

Loyalty in return for loyalty, friendship in return for friendship! These words, indisputable for all Bulgarian patriots, acquire great force now that the forces of imperialism have gone into a counterattack against detente, against peace and human rights, and now that unity of action by the socialist countries in defense of these values, won by the peoples, is more essential than ever before.

The Bulgarian people together with the peoples of other fraternal countries, the peoples of the Soviet Union and progressive forces are doing everything to prevent the world from slipping back to the cold war, and everything to block the path of the advocates of enmity and hatred.

The socialist countries are in a businesslike manner seeking decisive progress at the talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. They express willingness to make their contribution to success in the forthcoming meeting in Madrid this year of representatives of the participant states of the all-European conference, stressing the particular importance of progress in the sphere of military detente and disarmament. Comrade E. Gierek's statement from the rostrum at the Polish communists' congress that Warsaw is prepared to host a conference on the question of military detente and disarmament in Europe served as an important confirmation of the readiness of our countries for talks.

The implementation of the proposal on convening in Warsaw a conference on the question of military detente and disarmament in Europe would signify a positive change in the international situation. And an actual arrangement on convening a conference in Warsaw could be reached during the Madrid meeting--to take place this fall--of representatives of the participant countries of the all-European conference.

The experience accumulated by Bulgaria in building a socialist society indisputably confirms the proposition that the successful building of socialism in any country whatsoever, just like successful participation in the struggle for peace and security throughout the world, are possible only under conditions of constantly increasing cooperation and mutual assistance, cohesion and unity of action with the other socialist countries. Here, as Comrade Todor Zhivkov says, "the strength of the cohesion between the socialist countries is determined to a great extent by the strength of the cohesion of each of these countries with the Soviet Union."

SHAH ARRIVES IN EGYPT FROM PANAMA, WELCOMED BY AS-SADAT

LD242206 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program, presented by A. Timoshkin]

[Text] The deposed shah of Iran has arrived in Egypt at the personal invitation of As-Sadat, who some time ago suggested to this tyrant that he become his permanent guest. Even a state which is far from the Middle East, Panama, which greatly relies on the United States, ultimately did not dare allow the deposed shah to live permanently on its territory. As for As-Sadat, he has taken the risk. There are many reasons for this, the main one being that the Egyptian president openly detests the Iranian popular revolution. As-Sadat has frequently said that he would never allow the emergence of any ayatollah in his country. Washington and Tel Aviv have followed As-Sadat's line of detesting the Iranian people. The warm hospitality As-Sadat is giving the butcher of the Iranian people shows that As-Sadat is helping his American master who does not dare give protection to the shah but at the same time does not want to return to the Iranian people the immense wealth which this tyrant has plundered.

Kuvaldin Comment

LD241556 Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 24, TASS--TASS commentator Georgiy Kuvaldin writes:

The former shah of Iran, who was taking refuge in Panama, trying to escape retribution for the crimes perpetrated by him against the Iranian people, has been brought to Cairo aboard a U.S. plane. The shah was taken out on the eve of expiration of the 60-day term envisaged by the Panamanian laws for the preparation of documents confirming the necessity of extraditing this criminal, and in spite of the fact that, as Iranian Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh said, these documents were timely turned over to the Panamanian authorities in conformity with the country's Constitution.

There is no doubt that the sending of the former monarch to Cairo under the protection of the As-Sadat regime had been prepared and carried out by the U.S. administration and special services. Observers are drawing attention to the double game by President Carter and the White House. Although actually the shah's departure had been envisaged and decided in advance, the White House Chief of Staff Hamilton Jordan had been sent to Panama under the clearly far-fetched pretext of holding consultations on the "treatment" of the criminal hiding from the wrath of the Iranian people.

It is fresh evidence of the hypocrisy of the U.S. administration, which is not above using any means, including deception, in order to prevent the extradition of the shah to Iran. It is, apparently, realized in Washington that the extradition would undoubtedly result in fresh exposures of the more than 25 years old crude interference of U.S. imperialism in Iran's affairs, subversive activity and machinations of the CIA in that country, shameless plunder of Iran's natural resources by U.S. monopolies.

The report on the new flight of the shah prepared by his American friends and patrons touched off a storm of indignation in Iran. Pointing out that the shah was taken out of Panama precisely at a time of the greatest intensification of efforts by the Iranian authorities for his extradition, Tehran Radio stresses that "Rockefellers, Kissingers and Carters refuse to admit the possibility that the shah will face a court of justice.... It is precisely why use is made of every trick and a whole arsenal of exerting pressure so as to assist the criminal in his endless flight."

No wonder that the fugitive criminal found his new asylum under the wing of Egyptian President A. as-Sadat, who personally welcomed the shah at the Cairo airport. After signing the separate treaty with Israel and betraying the general Arab interests, the Egyptian regime is increasingly turning into a stronghold of the forces of imperialism and reaction in the Middle East, into a U.S. outpost in that region. Cairo possibly hopes that by giving refuge to the shah it will gain even greater "favours" and generosity of its overseas backers. This course meets, however, with resolute condemnation in the Arab world, a growing resistance on the part of the Egyptian people themselves.

As far as the fugitive criminal shah is concerned, the demand of the Iranian side, which has again confirmed by the students keeping the American hostage, remains the same--the former shah must be extradited to Iran and give account to the Iranian people for his crimes.

IRAN'S KHALKHALI CONDEMNS AS-SADAT ASYLUM TO SHAH

LD242038 Moscow TASS in English 2018 GMT 24 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Rome, March 24, TASS--A prominent religious figure of Iran Ayatollah Khalkhali, who made a stopover here, stated that the Egyptian President as-Sadat gave asylum to the former shah on direct orders from U.S. President Carter and Israeli Prime Minister Begin. We are sharply condemning the Egyptian president's decision and will give an appropriate reply to it, Khalkhali emphasized. We also hope that the Egyptian people will condemn As-Sadat's new criminal action.

Ayatollah Khalkhali pointed out that to the Iranian people and all unfortunate peoples, the former shah is a criminal and must be sentenced to death.

Touching upon the question of the U.S. hostages in Tehran, Ayatollah Khalkhali stressed that their fate was in the hands of President Carter. U.S. hostages guilty of espionage will be put on trial and bear punishment, he stated.

DEMONSTRATIONS, MARCHES IN IRAN PROTEST ASYLUM OF SHAH

LD251050 Moscow TASS in English 0943 GMT 25 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tehran, March 25, TASS--Mass demonstrations and marches are being held in towns and provinces of Iran today in protest against the decision by Egypt's President as-Sadat to grant political asylum in Egypt to the former shah. Since early morning tens of thousands of residents of Tehran marched in columns to the seized United States Embassy, where the American hostages are detained. They called for the extradition of the former dictator and his trial by a lawful court of the Iranian people.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

PRESENCE OF 10,000 U.S. TROOPS IN OMAN SCORED

ID231640 Moscow TASS in English 1627 GMT 23 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Baghdad, March 23, TASS--There are now ten thousand U.S. servicemen in Oman, a spokesman of the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman (PFLO) stated here. As the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY reports, he emphasized that Al-Kashbad, Dawwah, Bakha and Bay'ah became the main areas of location of U.S. troops.

According to available data, the spokesman pointed out, the entire territory of Oman is being turned into an arsenal of the U.S. military to facilitate a "rapid" invasion of the Persian Gulf area. Two big U.S. military bases as well as other military facilities are being built at Jaziral al Ghanam and (Mustadem). Oman is being used as a re-fuelling point by aircraft carriers, mine sweepers, and other warships that are part of the U.S. armada concentrated in the Indian Ocean. Masirah Island is the seat of the command of the U.S. Armed Forces in Oman and the Persian Gulf. The island is being re-equipped so as to complement the U.S. base Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. Masirah now receives a large number of U.S. B-52 bombers.

The PFLO spokesman also said that at the beginning of last month joint U.S.-Egyptian troops at a strength of approximately two thousand men carried out operations against PFLO fighting men in the country's south in the area of the town of Mirbat. During the combat operations the U.S.-Egyptian command intended to practice manoeuvrability of joint troops in the conditions of Oman terrain.

U.S. military preparations in Oman indicate that notwithstanding the statements about ostensible "unwillingness" to use force against Iran and the Arab states of the Persian Gulf, the Pentagon continues creating a nailed fist which directly threatens the independence and sovereignty of those countries. In this connection one cannot fail to recall the threatening tone of U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale's CBS interview in which he stated that Washington is considering a number of steps with regard to Iran, steps about which the vice president should not and cannot speak.

SYRIAN MINISTER COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH USSR

ID211442 Moscow TASS in English 1359 GMT 21 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Damascus, March 21, TASS--"The actions of the Syrian reaction were provoked by the United States and Israel which are trying in every way to complicate the political situation in the country and liquidate the progressive Syrian regime", stated Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, Syria's minister of information.

"The imperialists and their ilk in the Middle East region are not suited by Syria's stand, its sharp condemnation of the Egyptian-Israeli separate deal and opposition to the growth of American military presence in the Middle East", he stressed. All means are being used to make Syria accede to Camp David and become a pliant instrument of imperialism.

Touching on Soviet-Syrian relations, Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad noted that they were of a long-term strategic nature. "The Soviet Union is our sincere and loyal friend who consistently comes out on the side of the Arabs for the establishment of a lasting and just peace in the Middle East", the minister said.

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U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
L A T I N A M E R I C A & C A R I B B E A N

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FURTHER REPORTAGE ON NICARAGUAN DELEGATION VISIT

Kremlin Luncheon

LD191346 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 19 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpt] The CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government gave a luncheon on 19 March in the Great Kremlin Palace in honor of the government and party delegation of the Republic of Nicaragua. Present at the luncheon on the Soviet side were Comrades Gromyko, Kirilenko, Ustinov, Demichev, Ponomarev, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR ministers, chairmen of USSR state committees and other officials.

Kirilenko, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, made a speech.

Kirilenko, Borge Speeches

LD21151 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Mar 80 p 4 LD

[TASS report on 19 March Kremlin luncheon for Nicaraguan Government and party delegation: "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Excerpt] A.P. Kirilenko's Speech

Dear Comrades Moises Hassan, Tomas Borge, Henry Ruiz and Humberto Ortega.

Esteemed Nicaraguan guests!

Comrades!

It gives me great pleasure cordially to greet you emissaries of the heroic Nicaraguan people who have come to the Soviet Union on the first official friendly visit.

It is well known in our country, as throughout the world, that the Nicaraguan people achieved victory as a result of the long stubborn struggle against the hated dynastic tyranny of Somoza and won real freedom and independence for their motherland.

The prophetic words of Nicaragua's legendary hero Augusto Cesar Sandino have come true: "Nicaragua will be free as long as it has sons who love it."

Nicaragua's new generation of patriots has carried out what Sandino was struggling for and what he dreamed of so passionately. His name is inscribed on the banner of your combat organization--the National Liberation Front around which all Nicaragua's revolutionary and progressive forces have rallied.

The Soviet people warmly hailed the victory of the Nicaraguan revolution, which occupies a worthy place in the development of the world national liberation movement, whose mighty flow is drawing into its channel more and more countries and peoples, bringing them closer together in the common struggle for national independence, peace, democracy and social progress.

The Soviet people value highly the Nicaraguan people's revolutionary spirit and their firm determination to follow their chosen path and boldly defend the revolution's gains.

For many decades the dictatorial regime which has now been overthrown sought to prevent contacts between our countries and peoples. Your arrival in the Soviet Union opens a new page in the development of Soviet-Nicaraguan relations.

Your delegation's visit to the USSR has coincided with wonderful events in the life of our country. The Soviet people are successfully working to complete the last year of the 10th 5-Year Plan and preparing ceremonially to celebrate the 110th anniversary of the birth of V.I. Lenin, the perspicacity and invincible strength of whose ideas have also been confirmed by the victory of the Nicaraguan revolution.

The Soviet Union, true to Leninist foreign policy principles, including the principle of solidarity with peoples which have embarked on an independent path of development, advocates the development of multifaceted friendly relations with Nicaragua on the basis of equal rights, respect for national sovereignty, mutual advantage and noninterference in internal affairs.

As shown by the talks which have been held, our countries have much in common in their assessment of the prospects of development for bilateral relations and of the present international situation, which in our opinion creates favorable opportunities for the two countries' cooperation in the political, economic, cultural and other spheres.

For our part we are ready to do everything necessary to insure that our relations develop successfully. We attach great significance to the documents signed today, which create good legal and contractual basis for the further development of bilateral relations.

We see it as the chief purpose of our activities in the foreign policy sphere to preserve and to strengthen peace--that great asset of all peoples. In the interests of peace and of deepening the process of easing international tension we are ready for broad cooperation with all countries. This is our consistent and principled line stemming from the very nature of the socialist system--a society of social justice and humanism.

Recently, as is known, the situation in the world has once again grown more complex. The real reason for this is the stubborn reluctance--of the U.S. ruling circles above all--to recognize the new realities in the world and their attempts to halt the course of world history.

The U.S. administration is making feverish efforts to try to change the existing approximate equilibrium of forces in the West's favor under the cover of the "Soviet military threat" myth, which it itself invented, and by artificially ruling tension over Afghanistan.

Wishing to dictate to other people what path of development they should choose and what they should do with their natural riches, the United States is proclaiming whole regions of the world spheres of its "vital interests" and setting up special interventionist forces like the "quick reaction corps," the "Caribbean task force" and so forth.

Under complex international conditions the Soviet Union's policy remains principled and consistent. It is doing everything to insure that the forces of imperialist aggression and reaction cannot return the world to the cold war times.

As L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has declared: "The Soviet people and our friends abroad can be confident that the Leninist foreign policy course is unshakable.... It has justified itself in past decades, and we will continue following it. No one will deter us from this course."

We advocate the liquidation of hotbeds of tension in the Near and Middle East and in other parts of the world and the solution of all international problems without exception at the negotiating table, given the good will of the interested parties. But, if necessary, the Soviet Union will be able to stand up for its lawful interests and for the interests of our allies and friends.

In its relations with Asian, African and Latin American countries the Soviet Union does not pursue unilateral advantages or seek any mercenary ends. The USSR has made and is making a major contribution to the formation of the developing countries' national economies. We will continue giving assistance to these countries. We resolutely support their demands for the liquidation of all manifestations of inequality, diktat and discrimination in international economic relations.

The Soviet Union's relations with Latin American countries are growing continually. Bonds of unbreakable friendship and comprehensive cooperation link us with the Republic of Cuba--the first country building socialism in the Western Hemisphere. Life convincingly shows that the strengthening of relations between the Soviet Union and Latin American states is to our mutual benefit, accords with the peoples' interests and creates more favorable conditions and prospects for their progress on the path of independent development.

In conclusion I would like to express satisfaction with the friendly and cordial atmosphere in which our talks have taken place. We are confident that your visit to the Soviet Union will serve the development of friendship and cooperation between the two countries' peoples and the interests of strengthening peace and international security.

A.P. Kirilenko proposed a toast to the heroic Nicaraguan people and to friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Nicaragua.

Tomas Borge, member of the national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, delivered a speech in reply.

Thomas Borge's Speech

Comrade A.P. Kirilenko!

Members of the Soviet Government!

Members of the CPSU!

Comrades!

We have come to the motherland of Lenin, the founder of the Soviet state, from the motherland of Sandino who is the symbol of our democratic, people's and anti-imperialist revolution, as representatives of the Government of National Reconstruction, the Sandinista National Liberation Front and the heroic revolutionary Nicaraguan people, to convey fraternal greetings to the Soviet Government, the CPSU and the Soviet people.

I should like to take this opportunity to say that the Nicaraguan people value highly the message of greetings from L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, sent to us immediately after the victory over the hated dictatorship. In this message Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, whose name is widely known as a tireless fighter for peace, security and progress, voiced the Soviet people's sincere feelings of friendship and solidarity with the people of our country and the Nicaraguan revolution.

As a result of the 50-year struggle against the Somoza tyranny imposed by U.S. imperialism, the Nicaraguan people won complete victory over their enemies. They put an end to dependence for all time and created the preconditions of historical significance for building on the ruins a new, just and progressive society which displays solidarity with the struggle of oppressed people anywhere in the world.

The price of victory was high: Over 40,000 of the country's people, out of a population which barely exceeds 2 million, died, while hundreds of thousands were wounded. Entire cities were destroyed and with them housing, hospitals, communications and power supply systems and factories and plants were subjected to regular bomb raids. To this must be added the fact that the military operations reached a pitch at sowing time, as a result of which the country is now without grain. But what our enemies did not succeed and will not succeed in smashing with their weapons of U.S. and Israeli manufacture is the Nicaraguan people's will for victory and freedom.

The Government of National Reconstruction has been faced with the gigantic task of restoring the devastated country and with the need to pay the international banks the enormous foreign debt inherited from Somoza and his clique. The unemployment and poverty level in the country is high and the traitorous bourgeoisie that is the ally of the most reactionary and aggressive circles of U.S. imperialism is displaying total disrespect for its people.

Despite all these obstacles the Sandinist revolution under the leadership of its vanguard--the Sandinista National Liberation Front--is marching boldly and firmly forward. This is manifested specifically in the nationalization of the banks, the mining industry and foreign trade and in the expropriation of the Somoza family, of his accomplices and of the representatives of the traitorous bourgeoisie. Our government has embarked on the implementation of profound agrarian transformations; the realization of a plan to restore economic activity in order to insure employment and improve the people's living conditions; the pursuit of an extensive campaign to eliminate illiteracy; and the assertion of an independent foreign policy.

In our unbending determination to be free and to remain the masters of our own destiny we rely on the tested firmness of our people, on the clarity of goals, vigilance and boldness of our glorious vanguard--the Sandinista National Liberation Front--and on the international solidarity of the peoples advocating progress and independence.

We deeply support the policy of relaxation of international tension pursued by the Soviet Union and, with you, we act in defense of the cause of peace.

Soviet brothers! Our Sandinist revolution is irreversible. We ourselves take the decisions and that is why we are here. We are free and we use this freedom. We have come to shake the hand of the magnanimous, heroic and fraternal people of the Soviet Union.

In conclusion we repeat the words of that general of free people, Augusto Cesar Sandino who said when he was asked to surrender: We will not sell ourselves and we will not surrender. A free motherland or death.!

The speeches delivered by A.P. Kirilenko and Tomas Borge were listened to with great attention and greeted with applause.

The luncheon passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Visit to Leningrad

LD212228 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1625 GMT 2 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Leningrad, March 21, TASS--The party and government delegation of the Republic of Nicaragua today acquainted itself with the Hermitage, the largest Soviet museum of world art. The guests looked over the treasures of a special room where works by ancient masters are kept as well as articles in gold and jewels discovered during archaeological digs in the territory of the Soviet Union. In honor of the party and government delegation of the Republic of Nicaragua the Leningrad Obkom and Gorispolkom gave a luncheon at which Grigoriy Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom, and Moises Hassan, the head of the delegation and member of the ruling council of the Government of National Reconstruction of the Republic of Nicaragua exchanged toasts. The luncheon passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Departure for Home

LD221100 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 22 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The government and party delegation of the Republic of Nicaragua, headed by Moises Hassan, member of the government council of the Government of National Reconstruction, left the Soviet Union today. It had been in the USSR on an official, friendly visit. In Leningrad, it was seen off by Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the party oblast committee and other officials.

Ruiz, Borge, Hassan Remarks

LD222144 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 22 Mar 80 LD

[Summary] The official visit of the Nicaraguan government-party delegation to the Soviet Union ended today. The leader of the delegation and some of its members gave an interview aboard the aircraft to a group of Soviet journalists who accompanied the delegation during its tour of the country. Minister of Planning of Nicaragua Henry Ruiz, said among others: [begin recording in Spanish fading to Russian translation]

"The negotiations held in Moscow were of a positive character. This was our first contact with the world of socialism. Important documents have been signed which make official the contacts between our countries in a variety of fields including trade and scientific-technical cooperation. This will undoubtedly contribute to the development of the Nicaraguan revolution. The specific historic conditions in which the Nicaraguan revolution took place, said Henry Ruiz, have lent it a unique character of its own and make it possible for it to find a response in the socialist countries and among all the democratic forces fighting for power of the people in the interest of broad masses of the have-nots." [end recording]

Interior Minister Tomas Borge stated that the delegation saw more of Leningrad than of Moscow because in the capital they were engaged in negotiations. The delegates were very much impressed by the sights of Leningrad and the monuments of its historic past. They received much attention and were well content with contacts they made at a high level.

Moises Hassan, member of the executive council of the Government of National Reconstruction who is also president of the Nicaraguan National Olympic Committee, condemned the attempts to boycott the Olympic games in Moscow as silly and designed to serve the interests of U.S. imperialism. Nicaragua will send a small team to the games not so much in the hope of winning successes but as a symbolic gesture.

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U S S R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
P O L I T I C A L & S O C I A L D E V E L O P M E N T S

R 1

MEETING OF RSFSR SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDUM REPORTED

ID241506 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 24 Mar 80 ID

[Text] A session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium was held today. It examined questions connected with the agenda and work schedule of the First Session of the 10th Convocation of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet which begins tomorrow. The session was chaired by Yasnov, chairman of the republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium.

In 30 minutes a meeting of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet's Council of Elders will begin in the Kremlin.

KAPITONOV ATTENDS RSFSR SUPREME SOVIET COUNCIL OF ELDERS

ID242332 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 24 Mar 80 ID

[Excerpt] In the Kremlin today a session of the Council of Elders of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet was held, at which there was a preliminary discussion of points concerning the agenda and procedure at the First Session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet in its 10th Convocation. The session was conducted by Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Yasnov, chairman of the Presidium of the Republican Supreme Soviet.

OPENING OF RSFSR SUPREME SOVIET SESSION REPORTED

ID250820 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 25 Mar 80 ID

[Excerpt] The First Session of the 10th Convocation of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet opened in the Great Kremlin Palace in Moscow an hour ago.

Deputies and guests welcomed Comrades Gromyko, Pelshe, Romanov, Ustinov, Chernenko, Gorbachev, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Solomentsev, Kapitonov and Dolgikh with prolonged applause.

At the instruction of the Soviet of the Elders, the session was opened by one of the longest standing deputies of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, Hero of Socialist Labour, film director Sergey Apollinarovich Gerasimov.

Further Report

ID251044 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 25 Mar 80 ID

[Excerpts] Our special correspondents report from the Kremlin: The First Session of the 10th Convocation of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation began its work at 1000 this morning.

The session elected the chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation. This was Gribachev, a poet, chief editor of the Journal SOVETSKIY SOYUZ and a Hero of Socialist Labor. Eight deputy chairmen of the Republican Supreme Soviet were then elected. The agenda was then confirmed. The deputies decided to discuss the following items:

Election of the mandate commission of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet;

Election of the Presidium of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet;
The progress of implementation of the RSFSR law on health care and measures to further improve protection of the health of the population;
The draft regulations of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet and the insertion of changes and addenda to the clause on standing commissions of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet;
Confirmation of decrees of the Presidium of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet;
Formation of standing commissions of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet;
Formation of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR;
Formation of the People's Control Committee of the RSFSR;
Election of the Supreme Court of the RSFSR.
A proposal was put forward at the session to elect a mandate commission comprising 35 deputies. This proposal was passed unanimously. Deputy Ponomarev, secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, was elected chairman of the mandate commission, also unanimously.

The session is continuing its work.

MRS SAKHAROV INTERVIEWED ON LIFE OF HUSBAND IN GORKIY

DW241445 Bonn DIE WELT in German 24 Mar 80 p 1 DW

[Report by Moscow correspondent D. Mummenday on interview with Mrs Sakharov in Moscow: "That is the Psycho-terror Against Sakharov"]

[Text] Moscow--The Sakharovs have just one friend in Gorkiy who comes to visit them occasionally. Otherwise they know nobody in that town 400 km east of Moscow to which the Nobel Peace Prize winner was deported 2 months ago.

"And every time this friend comes to see us, he is later on 'invited' by the KGB," said Sakharov's wife Yelena when she came to Moscow recently to see a physician. In a 2-hour talk with DIE WELT the pediatrician has poured out her heart. She is herself one of the most active members of the Moscow "Helsinki Committee."

Sakharov has no telephone and receives no mail from friends, even from the children of his wife's first marriage. Nothing gets through any more from the United States, "only evil slandering letters, three a day," reports Yelena.

Now they have thought up some new chicanery: They want to force Sakharov to report to the police every 10 days. "It is like he is a sentenced criminal--absolutely illegal and also ridiculous--two policemen stand at the apartment door day and night anyway," reports his wife.

No court has ruled he should be deported. It has not been proven in any trial that he has committed a crime.

On Thursday Sakharov sent a telegram to his wife in Moscow: "They are demanding registration under the threat of physical violence; have denied categorically; sent telegram to Andropov (KGB chief); demand juridical reason for all open violence by the organs."

On Friday Mrs Sakharov received a second alert: "Appearance at registration has been asked for a second time; denied to sign protocol about malicious disobedience; see you Sunday, am sound."

Yelena Bonner (who kept her maiden name after her marriage) must go regularly to a Moscow physician to take care of an eye disease. Her visits are the only connection of the deported with the outside world.

Even that connection has now become precarious: Yelena has been urgently warned not to give "press conferences," but even informal contacts seem to be threatened now:

"Measures are being prepared to cut short Yeleny Bonner's activities as a courier," says a letter ominously which Sofia Kallistratova found recently in her mailbox. She is a pensioned lawyer and one of the few members of the "Helsinki Committee" who has not yet been arrested. No postage stamp was on the envelope, nor was there any signature.

"What is this supposed to mean? A travel ban? A body search? The application of violence?" asks Yelena, "I don't know."

The uncertainty about what the next day will bring is the worst, Mrs Sakharov tells me.

"It is terrible in a labor camp. But there at least there is a nachalnik (a trusty) who is responsible for the prisoners and last but not least for their lives. For Andrey, however, nobody is officially responsible. It is a situation of absolute illegitimacy."

Shortly after she left Gorkiy last week, she heard via friends that somebody had kicked in the door at night in Gorkiy. Upon her query she received an ambiguous telegram from her husband saying that the lock on the door had been "broken" for some days.

"It can hardly have been burglars," said Yelena. Who would break in when the police are at the door day and night?"

An acquaintance who had flown to Gorkiy from Moscow with a chocolate cake and a piece of good soap--treasures in the Soviet Union--to visit the Sakharovs, was caught as she left the taxi. The cake and the soap were taken from her, she was taken to the airport and guarded until she boarded the plane to Moscow, but she was permitted to write on a piece of paper: "I wanted to bring you cake and soap but I could not do it personally. It was not up to me." At night the police delivered the gifts to the Sakharovs.

These are troublesome days. On a "normal" day Sakharov gets up at 0800, works for 1 1/2 hours on physics problems before having breakfast with his wife, and then he continues his work until lunchtime. Then the Sakharovs go shopping and stand in line: "In Gorkiy even less can be bought than in Moscow," says Mrs Sakharov.

Even when we go for a stroll KGB officials follow us in civilian clothes: "When we took my mother to the railway station after she visited us, and when Andrey was giving her bag back to her, the KGB people became active immediately. We had to say good-bye over the barriers of their arms."

At 1500 or 1530 they eat their main meal. After that Sakharov rests and in the evening reads scientific journals which Yelena picks up for him in Moscow. Later on both often listen to VOA or BBC in order to be informed about world events.

"The apartment is not bad," says Yelena, "it is bigger than our old one in Moscow, fully furnished, everything is there." (Probably also bugs, remark of the editor)

One of the four rooms is locked. It belongs to an older woman who comes only occasionally. The Sakharovs are convinced that she is a KGB spy.

It is most painful to the man who is considered one of the "fathers" of the Soviet hydrogen bomb that he has no more contacts with his domestic and foreign scientific colleagues. The Soviet Academy of Sciences told him, or had to tell him, that the last three works he submitted would not be published.

"These are important works," states Yelena Bonner, "Andrey considers it most important that the scientific public of the world know that he continues to work, but he is not permitted to publish any more."

"Often one thinks in the West that we give such information and send such telegrams as those of Andrey to the public to make us appear as interesting persons," says Yelena Bonner desperately.

"That is not so; Andrey's life is at stake."

"The defense of Sakharov is important, not because he is my husband, but in order to show the world what is being done here to people who are acting for human rights. Sakharov has always acted for all persecuted people: for the clergy, for Lithuanians and Tatars, for the rights of the Jews, for the Soviet Germans, for persecuted in the East and in the West."

"One must not speak only of Sakharov, but over and over again of all who have been arrested because they have acted for human rights, for Orlov, Kavalov, Nikipelov and all the others. Everybody who takes part in the Moscow Olympics ought to think of these arrested people when he celebrates here."

Yelena Bonner has bitter words for the Soviet Academy of Sciences which has not ousted Sakharov but which has not defended him either: "Not one single academy member has come, has written a word or lifted a finger. Certainly there are decent people among the academicians but they have kept quiet because they are afraid."

MOVES AGAINST SOVIET INTELLECTUALS REPORTED

ID240953 Paris LE MONDE in French 21 Mar 80 p 44 LD

[Unattributed report: "In Brief"]

[Text] According to reports from Leningrad, young Leningrad historian Sergey Dedyulin, who brushed with the KGB in March last year, once again had his apartment searched on Monday, 10 March. All his documents, manuscripts, address books and his typewriter were removed. He was summoned to KGB headquarters in Leningrad the next day and underwent a 10-hour interrogation.

In addition Jewish writer Igor Guberman, who was a member of the Editorial Board of the unofficial magazine JEWS IN THE USSR has been sentenced to 5 years hard labor for dealing in stolen icons. The news of his sentence was announced on Israeli radio by his sister-in-law Nina Patia.

CSA ISSUES STOCKRAISING FIGURES FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY

LD240855 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 12 Signed to Press 17 Mar 80
p 18 LD

[USSR Central Statistical Administration report under the rubric "January-February Survey": "Stockraising on kolkhozes and Sovkhozes"]

[Text] The Editorial Office has received USSR Central Statistical Administration figures for the state of stockraising on kolkhozes and sovkhozes for January-February 1980.

The concluding stage of livestock wintering has arrived. Despite limited fodder stocks, the majority of kolkhozes and sovkhozes have successfully organized work in livestock units and complexes and achieved good results in producing meat, milk and other produce. Farm stockmen are making efforts to obtain more livestock unit output for the last expenditure.

I. Production of Livestock Products

In January-February the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes recorded the following results for production of livestock products:

Indicators	January-February 1980	January-February 1980 as percentage of January-February 1979
Meat production (sale of livestock and poultry for slaughter in live weight)--thousand tons	2703	113
including:		
Cattle	1751	113
Pigs	660	110
Sheep and Goats	61	118
Poultry	231	116
Gross milk yield--thousand tons	7784	96
Average milk yield per cow--kilograms	277	95
Hen's eggs obtained--millions	7102	106
Average egg yield per laying hens	31	100

Production of all types of livestock and poultry on kolkhozes and sovkhozes increased by 304,000 tons compared with January-February 1979. The gross milk yield for the country's farms as a whole was 285,000 tons less during this period. At the same time dairy unit workers in the Uzbek, Azerbaijan, Latvian, Kirgiz, Turkmen and Estonian SSRs achieved a 5-14 percent increase in milk production compared with January-February 1979.

Kolkhoz and sovkhoz egg production for January-February this year increased by 406 million eggs. There was an increase in this output from the farms of the majority of union republics except Tadzhikistan and Turkmenia.

II. Purchases of Livestock Products from Kolkhozes, Sovkhozes and Other State Farms

Types of produce purchased	Purchased in January-February 1980	January-February as percentage of January-February 1979
Livestock and poultry (in live weight)--thousand tons	2609	113
Milk--thousand tons	6316	96
Eggs--millions	6890	105

The volume of sales of livestock and poultry to the state by kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other state farms in January-February 1980 in comparison with the same period last year increased by 302,000 tons. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes sold cattle at an average weight of 372 kg. The average weight of pigs was 101 kg.

Milk and dairy produce purchases for January-February this year by comparison with January-February 1979 were 294,000 tons, or 4 percent less, for the USSR as a whole. In the RSFSR the largest decline in sales of this produce was recorded by the farms of Novgorodskaya, Bryanskaya, Vladimirskaya, Kalininskaya, Kaluzhskaya, Orlovskaya, Ryazanskaya, Smolenskaya, Tulskaia, Gorkovskaya, Voronezhskaya, Astrakhanskaya, Volgogradskaya, Kuybyshevskaya, Penzenskaya, Saratovskaya, Ulyanovskaya, Rostovskaya and Kurganskaya oblasts, the Mordovskaya and Buryatskaya ASSRs and Altayskiy Kray. At the same time the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Arkhangelskaya, Vologdskaya, Leningradskaya, Irovskaya, and Kurskaya oblasts, the Tatarskaya ASSR and Primorskiy Kray increased their sales of milk.

Egg purchases in January-February 1980 as against January-February 1979 increased by 346 million eggs. The biggest increase in procurements of this produce was secured on Estonian, Georgian, Latvian, Moldavian and Azerbaijan farms. In the RSFSR egg purchases increased considerably on farms in the Komi and Bashkirskaia ASSRs and Arkhangelskaya, Kurganskaya, Permskaya, Chelyabinskaya and other oblasts. At the same time kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Tambovskaya oblast and Altayskiy, Krasnodarskiy, Stavropol'skiy and Khabarovskiy krays reduced their sales of eggs to the state.

III. Production and Purchases of Livestock Products for the Union Republics

	January-February 1980 as percentage of January-February 1979		
	Production		
	Meat	Milk	Eggs
Purchases			
	Livestock and Poultry	Milk	Eggs
In all for the USSR	113	96	106
RSFSR	112	94	106
Including Non-Chernozem Zone	122	96	109
Ukrainian SSR	98	96	104
Belorussian SSR	110	98	106
Uzbek SSR	115	109	115
Kazakh SSR	117	100.6	100.6
Georgian SSR	101	102	109

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USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS
AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Azerbaijan SSR	103	106	108	105	108	114
Lithuanian SSR	102	92	108	102	88	108
Moldavian SSR	117	101	107	125	100.1	112
Latvian SSR	122	109	113	124	110	114
Kirgiz SSR	128	106	106	151	107	110
Tadzhik SSR	98	102	94	95	103	102
Armenian SSR	102	102	108	100	101	102
Turkmen SSR	106	105	97	105	102	97
Estonian SSR	116	114	119	116	115	117

IV. Livestock Population

As of 1 March 1980 there were 89.6 million head of cattle on kolkhozes and sovkhoses, which is 695,000 more than on the same date last year. The number of cows reached 29.5 million, an increase of 314,000.

Pigs totaled 54.3 million, which is 671,000 fewer than on 1 March 1979. The sheep and goat population totaled 126.5 million. The number of poultry totaled 606 million head, an increase of 37,829,000.

The numbers of cattle on kolkhozes and sovkhoses increased in the majority of union republics, except farms in the Belorussian, Georgian and Kirgiz SSRs. The cow population grew on the farms of all the union republics. The number of pigs fell somewhat on farms in the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Moldavia, Tadzhikistan and Armenia, while on farms in the other union republics the pig population increased.

The sheep and goat population fell somewhat throughout the country as a whole. However, farms in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Lithuania, Moldavia, Kirgizia, Tadzhikistan, Armenia, Turkmenistan and Estonia increased the number of sheep and goats.

The poultry population increased on farms in all the union republics except Georgia, Azerbaijan and Moldavia. The greatest poultry increase (9-19 percent) was achieved on farms in Belorussia, Uzbekistan, Latvia, Armenia, Turkmenistan and Estonia.

As we can see from these figures, kolkhozes and sovkhoses have not allowed a substantial decline in livestock population and productivity over the past winter months. During the remaining time that the animals are kept in stalls it is essential to work in as organized a way as possible in livestock units and to organize careful accounting of the forage allocated so that there is enough of it until the animals are driven out to pasture.

The regular summing up of the results of competition among livestock unit collectives and the skillful use of material incentives enable the leading farms to achieve the best results.